

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON ARRIVAL OF THE P. & O. MESSAGERIES AND PACIFIC MAILS FROM CHINA JAPAN STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, &c

IN CONNECTION WITH THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS." A WEEKLY SUMMARY FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS.

VOL. XIX.—No. 739.]

LONDON, MONDAY, OCT. 29, 1877.

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Latest Advices.

PORTS	OUTWARD.		HOMeward.	
	From London.	Arrived out.	Received	Oct. 29.
JAPAN—Yokohama	July 20	Sept. 3	Sept. 8*	
Yedo ...	—	—	“ 3*	
Osaka and Hiogo	—	—	“ 1	
Hakodadi	—	—	Aug. 27	
Nagasaki	—	—	Sept. 4	
CHINA—Peking	—	—	“ 5	
Tien-tsin	—	—	Aug. 23	
Chefoo	—	—	Sept. 5	
New-chwang	—	—	“ 4	
Hankow	—	—	“ 4	
Kiu-kiang	—	—	“ 4	
Chin-kiang	—	—	“ 4	
Shanghai	“ 30	Aug. 30	Sept. 9	
Ningpo	—	—	“ 6	
Foochow	—	—	“ 11	
Formosa	—	—	“ 4	
Amoy	—	—	“ 12	
Swatow	—	—	“ 13	
Hong Kong	Aug. 3	Sept. 7	“ 15	
Canton	—	—	“ 13	
Macao	—	—	“ 14	
PHILIPPINES—Manila	July 20	Aug. 26	“ 5	
COCHIN-CHINA—Saigon	—	—	“ 21	
SIAM—Bangkok	—	—	“ 16	
BORNEO—Labuan	—	—	“ 3	
Sarawak	—	—	“ 6	
JAVA—Batavia	—	—	“ 20	
Samarang	—	—	“ 13	
Sourabaya	—	—	“ 15	
MALACCA STRAITS—Singapore	Aug. 24	Sept. 22	“ 23	
Penang	“ 17	“ 13	“ 17	
CEYLON—Galle	—	—	Oct. 1	
Colombo	—	—	Sept. 29	

* Via San Francisco, received Oct. 22.

THE MAILS, &c.

The French mail, with the advices dated as above from China and the Straits Settlements, was delivered, via Marseilles, on the 23rd inst. There are no later Japan advices than those which reached London, per Pacific Mail Company's steamer *China*, via San Francisco, on the 22nd inst., and were published in our last issue. The next inward (P. and O.) mail, from Yokohama 13th, Shanghai 16th, Hong Kong 22nd, Singapore 30th Sept., is due in London on the 5th proximo. The Messageries Maritimes steamer *Sind*, with the mail due in London on the 19th prox., left Aden on the 28th inst., four days early.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Tigre*, arrived Oct. 21.—From Yokohama: Mr. Owen, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Dupont. From Shanghai: Mr. Green, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Schmidt. From Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, Mr. Tubal, Mr. Farrell, Mr. De Castillo, Mrs. Thomson. From Saigon: Mr. Theron. From Batavia: Messrs. Hakebeck, Debraun, Van de Mur, Van de Nieden, Erl. De Lonay, Plot, Leroux, Mr. and Mrs. Van Zuglen, Mr. and Mrs. De Kok, Mr. and Mrs. Bosch. From Singapore: Messrs. Bremer, Donaldson, Collins, Chapel, Wanlass. From Galle: Mr. Pichill.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer *Pekin*, from Southampton, Oct. 18.—To Yokohama: Mr. Levy. To Shanghai: Mr. R. R. Burnett. To Hong Kong: Mr. G. Oyarzabal, Mr. A. Schoolbread. To Colombo: Miss Lovell, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Feeney, Mr. W. Jaffray, Mr. Berwick.

Per P. and O. steamer *Ceylon*, from Venice, Oct. 26.—To Hong Kong: Rev. L. Tasso and Rev. L. Redhaar. To Ceylon: Mr. M. R. Deas. From Brindisi, Oct. 29.—To Singapore: Mr. A. M. Martin. To Galle: Mr. F. D. Mitchell.

Per P. and O. steamer *Travancore*, from Venice, Nov. 2.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Macleod.

Per P. and O. steamer *Malwa*, from Southampton, Nov. 1.—To Yokohama: Messrs. Nakamigawa, Nabeshima, Obata, Mockinoki. To Hong Kong: Sub-lieuts. H. R. P. Floyd and C. W. May. To Singapore: Lieut. H. Stevenson. To Ceylon: Mr. T. A. Hill, Mr. E. P. Atkinson, Miss C. E. Myers, Mr. A. Gray.

Per P. and O. steamer *Persia*, from Venice, Nov. 9.—To Singapore: Mr. A. K. Murray, Mr. T. Worthington. From Brindisi, Nov. 12.—To Ceylon: Mr. F. D. Mitchell. Per P. and O. steamer *Hindostan*, from Southampton, Nov. 15.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Wardlaw, Mr. C. H. Best, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd. To Ceylon: Mr. C. W. Bailey.

Per P. and O. steamer *Ceylon*, from Venice, Nov. 23.—To Hong Kong: Dr. and Mrs. Grant. From Brindisi, Nov. 26.—To Hong Kong: Rev. W. S. Swanson.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Irauadddy*, from Marseilles, Nov. 4.—To Yokohama: Mr. and Mrs. Mordenseat. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. H. Smith. To Batavia: Mr. and Mrs. Van Brinck and daughter, Mr. G. L. Ormien, Mr. and Mrs. Lentzins, Mr. G. L. Quein. To Saigon: Mr. and Mrs. A. Rampant. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Mackie, Mr. Windsor, Mr. Brazier and family. To Colombo: Mr. J. R. Bell, Mr. Newman, Mrs. Strachan and daughter, Captains Twynans, Smith, and Loraine.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Tigre*, from Marseilles, Nov. 18.—To Yokohama: Mr. Iwakura and Mr. Oki. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. J. Powrie. Mr. J. Baugh Allen, Mr. Paul Levy. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hillier. To Batavia: Mr. Van Ament and family, Mr. Van Schrever, Mrs. de Stuers and daughter. To Singapore: Mrs. Donaldson, Mr. and Mrs. Neave, Mr. J. G. Davidson, Mr. B. Rodyk, Mr. B. Klunder, Mr. J. G. Caswell. To Ceylon: Mr. D. Cmbe, General Mundy, Capt. Hayes, Mr. R. Wickam, Miss Carr, Miss Mundy.

Per Messageries Maritimes steamer *Sind*, from Marseilles, Dec. 2.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. George. To Ceylon: Mr. J. C. McCall, Mr. R. C. Aitken.

Per steamer *Glengyle*, from London, Oct. 28.—To Singapore: Mr. Hermann Eggers, Mr. Jasper Bluvett, Mrs. Reynolds. To Hong Kong: Mr. James Hunt. To Shanghai: Mrs. Byrne, Mr. Robert Menzies Scott.

Summary of News from the Far East.

CHINA.

PEKING.

The *North China Daily News* says:—

We learn from Peking that the mission to Japan, the appointment of two Envoys to which took place nearly a year ago, is at length about to set out for that country. The two Envoys, Ho Ju-chang and Chang Sze-kwei (the latter a well-known Ningpo shop-keeper and junk-owner), had audience on the 29th ult. This is, characteristically enough, described in the *Peking Gazette* of that date (in the "Court Circular" page) as an audience had by the two officials above-named "who are about to travel abroad." The Peking *Court Circular* of the 24th August mentions that Tseng Ki-tseh (eldest son of the late Tseng Kwo-fan) has paid his respects and had audience on the expiry of his double term of mourning for his deceased father and his mother.

TIENTSIN.

The *Courier's* correspondent writes:—

The Viceroy has been again praying for rain, if report be true, and the usual yellow papers have been everywhere hung out. A three days' interdiction of the killing of beef, mutton and pork has just closed, but all these extreme measures have been almost wholly ineffectual. No rain has fallen worth mentioning for more than three weeks, and there is no prospect of any at present, or before it is too late to be of any service. It is to be hoped that some efficient measures may be taken by the Government for the relief of the poor, but the hope is not a very lively one. Trade of all sorts is of course much depressed, and likely to be more so in the future.

Mr. Tong King-Sing, manager of the China Merchants' Company, arrived per *Hae-an* on the 25th, expecting to reside in Tientsin. Rev. S. R. Brown, D.D., of Yokohama, came on the same vessel, on his way to Peking. The former gentleman was a pupil many years since of the latter, at a mission school in one of the southern ports of China.

WUCHANG.

The *Courier's* correspondent writes under date of Aug. 27.—

Some progress in the settlement of the affair which I have been reporting lately, the attack on the gentlemen of the Wesleyan Mission here. On Monday, the 13th inst., two companies of soldiers, five hundred men sent by the Chih Hsien, surrounded the military examiners, and captured some two hundred of them. They were marched to the camp on the Parade Ground, and their names ascertained. Fifteen were wanted, and so the others were allowed to depart, scared or not, as the case might be, by their summary seizure. Of those who were detained two were

certainly identified by the native Christian who stood so pluckily by his foreign pastor and friend. Another, the gentlemen were almost positive they saw among the ringleaders of the row. The sentences as so far ascertained are six hundred blows and five months' imprisonment (at first it was ten months) for the two men certainly identified. One hundred blows and three months in prison for two others, and one hundred blows and the canque for two more. The man who snatched away the spectacles, and the one who gave the blow with the beam which did the most serious injury, breaking the shoulder blade and splitting three ribs, have not been arrested as yet; but I understand the Consular authorities demand their punishment in addition to what has been done. These men were not dummies, like the first lot pretended to have been taken, but which his Excellency was shy of showing for identification. The matter having been reported as unsettled to Peking has roused him to action. He has now to have extra guards, six hundred men at his Yamen at a cost of cash 20,000 per diem, so that he would like to see the end of it before long, though he will doubtless squeeze it out of some parties if he cannot make the offending students pay the bill.

SZECHUEN.

The *North China Herald* says:—

We have been favoured with perusal of a private letter from Mr. Baber, dated the 26th July, in which he describes himself as drifting down the Min River in delicious weather, winding among low hills covered with fir and insect wax trees.

To the South-west an enormous mass of rock thrusts its head and shoulders above the clouds. I first descried it from a distance of more than sixty miles, and knew it at once. It is the holy mountain of Omi, on the borders of Thibet, and the bourne to which I am journeying is its summit.

I am roughing it in a somewhat complete sense; no bed, no mattress, and Chinese food. The day after leaving Chung-king was so appallingly hot, and the inn we put up at so insectivorous, that I slept on a hill side with a coolie to fan the mosquitoes away. In a few days I shall be among mountain snows; and as my extra clothing consists of three pocket handkerchiefs, I fear I shall have to wear a blanket all day. I shall probably be back in Chung-king in about six weeks' time.

Mr. Gill, dating from Cheng-tu, 29th June, writes:—I have returned here again from a most delightful expedition, which took about a month, and which I thoroughly enjoyed. I left this with the intention of going to a place called Li Fan Fu, about six days' journey, but when two days out from this I found unexpected facilities for going to Sung Pau Ting, on the borders of the Koko Nor, which I determined to avail myself of. I was at this time at Kuan Hsien, just at the point where the (so-called) Min River debouches from the mountains into this beautiful plain; and I think the situation is one of the most picturesque I have ever seen. There are some exceedingly fine temples here, most gorgeously decorated, and the scrupulous cleanliness of everything, the perfect repair in which the places are kept, the beautifully paved courts, and fine flights of stone steps with never a weed between the flags, the freshness of the gilding and colouring on the decorations, present a remarkable contrast to the sort of thing I have been previously accustomed to in China. One of the temples is situated on a little headland over the river which rushes and boils beneath; and from a charming little pavilion in the grounds you look to the right up the beautifully green and well-wooded valley of the Min, while to the left the Ch'eng Tu plain—which from the number of trees planted along the roads and round the houses has all the appearance of being well wooded—is spread out.

WUHU.

A correspondent of the *Celestial Empire* writes as follows:—

The trade of the port has, since it was first opened, continued to increase both in importance and in value. Piece goods, sugar, opium, and sandalwood are the principal imports from Shanghai, and oil, paper and a few sundries those from Hankow.

The exports have been tea, medicine, hemp, and raw silk, but not in large quantities. Rice has also been exported to Hankow, but I do not know whether in settlement of accounts, or owing to any failure of the rice crop in Hupeh.

Some of the best informed native merchants here tell me that Wuhu is bound to be one of the great centres of trade, and that in a year or two a very large business will be done in both imports and exports.

It has been interesting to note how very careful our local merchants have been in opening up the business of the port. From the time the steamers began to bring cargo here first one would get sent up from Shanghai five bags of sugar, another a bale of piece goods, a couple of bundles of seaweed or a bag of pepper; gradually increasing the amounts, until now, when considerable quantities of the abovementioned articles are arriving by every steamer of the C.M.S.N. Co., and nearly all the principal merchants have consignments. In the same way the export of local produce began; a clerk, or someone belonging to a native hong would call at the Custom-house, it is said, and inquire what the duty would be on certain articles, and then after considering the matter for a few days, he would finally make a very small

shipment. One man, I hear, asked, when told the duty, "Yes, but what will the squeezes be, besides!" and would hardly believe there would be none. It is only fair to say that the rapid development of the trade, and the confidence which the native merchants have so quickly gained, is due in a very great measure to the Foreign Commissioner of Customs, who gave strict orders to all his employés to assist the merchants in every way in the shipment and discharge of their goods, and to afford them every information in learning the routine of his office; added to which his own suavity of manner has helped to place all of us foreigners in very pleasant relations with our Chinese neighbours. In addition, he has had the tariffs, both import and export, placed in glass frames, and so hung up that all wishing to read them may do so with ease—a plan that might be copied with advantage by other offices having business with Chinese.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings advices from this port to the 9th September; no later mail from London had been received.

The Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce has addressed a letter to the Foreign Ministers at Peking, in which he directs attention to the deterioration of the river Hwangpu. The despatch sets forth the general bearings of the subject, which are already known, and gives the subjoined quotation from a report on the subject by Mr. Escher:—

"Finally, we would offer a few remarks with regard to the management of the Wangpu generally, in the interest of a good fairway between Shanghai and the Yangtze estuary.

"The great quantity of matter in suspension in the Wangpu water causes every projection in the river to make deposit.

"The manifold jetties and piers at and near Shanghai work in the same way as groins; the space between them fills with sediment, and they have already noticeably narrowed the river in front of the Settlements.

"Narrowing, at a point not abnormally wide, causes impediment to the tidal flow, and this again causes generally decrease of sectional area and depth.

"In order to maintain the river in a proper condition for navigation, a regular width should be kept in view, a trifle wider at the entrance than higher up, and with as few sharp curves as possible.

"Therefore it is desirable for that part of the river where there is a tidal flow to fix regular shore lines ('normal lines') on a correct chart, within which lines all kinds of hindrances to the tidal flow must be prohibited, and beyond which, as far as concerns the river part that is wanted to be deep, at some places protection of banks will prove necessary, in order to prevent the formation of a second 'Woosung Bar.'

"In the beginning of this report the benefit to the river has been pointed out, which is derived from the usual dredging or digging out of the creeks discharging into it. This good custom of dredging or digging out cannot be too highly recommended. Care must also be taken that the mouths of such creeks have a form favourable alike for discharge and entrance of water."

In conclusion the despatch states:—

"The committee do not consider it necessary on this occasion to enter upon the subject of the hindrance to navigation caused by the Woosung Bar or to discuss the best means of removing it. They are of opinion that this question is one among many concerning the waterways of Shanghai, the determination of which properly devolves upon special functionaries to be appointed by the Chinese Government, whose business it would be to decide upon and provide the most efficient means of protecting the navigable channels of the port and maintaining free access to it for vessels of all draughts."

At the date of the last mail's departure the telegraph cable between Amoy and Gutzlaff was broken, and as the *H. C. Erstet* was away at Vladivostock some considerable time was expected to elapse before it could be repaired.

The returns given in the *Customs Gazette* for the quarter ending June 30 show that the import of grey shirtings into Shanghai was greater by 270,000 pieces than in the corresponding period of 1876; that of T-clothes 20,000 less; than of English drills and jeans 40,000 pieces less; that of American 15,000 more; and that of Dutch again nearly 40,000 less. There was a very large increase in the import of sheetings and handkerchiefs; but no material variation in other classes of cotton goods. The gross import of woollens was 5,000 pieces less than in the corresponding quarter, the total being kept up by an increase of 20,000 pieces in the import of figured lustres, while every other article except camlets show a decrease. Iron more than doubled; lead shows a falling off of about 30 per cent. Opium figures for 11,700 piculs, against 8,900.

From the *North China Herald* we take the following:—

Myriads of the insects, resembling small caterpillars, which have occasioned so much wonderment in the Settlement during the last week settled on Saturday on a camphor-wood chest of drawers in the bed-room of a resident in the Nanking-road. No sooner had they settled than they formed themselves into divisions, battalions, out-posts and pickets; and then, with the industry of ants, commenced to weave a web of considerable dimensions. The outer and main lines of the web were of as-

tonishing strength, while the intervening lines were finer and more artistically executed. Their work was watched with great interest, and many opinions were expressed as to what it all was. Not the least amusing one was the suggestion of an engineer that the little creepers had been sent from above to weave a net to protect the Woosung Railway until further consideration had been given to the project. We fear the Chinese will not view them in this light.

The hearing of an action has been concluded in H.B.M.'s Supreme Court, before R. A. Mowat, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge, and a jury, in which Captain Lyell, of Chefoo, claimed Tls. 2,000 from Captain R. Paul, the commander of H.B.M.'s gunboat *Mosquito*, for false imprisonment. The case arose out of the wreck of the *Annie Gray*, about eight miles from Chefoo, in January last, when plaintiff, who was salving the cargo, was taken as a prisoner from the wreck to Chefoo in the *Mosquito*, and charged before the Consul with impeding the salving operations, and with threatening to throw the paymaster of the *Mosquito* overboard. For the two offences he was mulcted in fines amounting to £55. It was now claimed that his arrest was unjustifiable, and that he was accordingly entitled to damages. The jury gave a verdict in favour of the plaintiff, and assessed the damages at Tls. 300. Defendant has also to pay the costs.

The day of the small river gunboat, whose function was to lie within the mouth of creeks and beat periodically on the tom-tom to warn pirates to commit their depredations elsewhere, is evidently nearly over. We mentioned some time ago that the Governor of Chekeang was talking of having small steamers built to replace those in his jurisdiction; and we find from the *Gazette* of the 23rd August that the idea has been already put in practice in Kwang-tung. No less than sixteen small steam-launches have been introduced for police purposes on the three great rivers which intersect that province. Their total cost has been Tls. 96,860, and they cost per month Tls. 4,148 to maintain. The idea is an excellent one, and if honestly commanded and used they ought to be of great service in suppressing piracy in those much-vexed waters.

The great number of stray and diseased dogs prowling about is one of the most objectionable eyesores in the Settlement, and it is not one of the easiest duties the police have to perform to lessen the number as much as possible. For some months past it is well-known that they have been somewhat active in this respect, —a little too much so for the natives, who have complained that respectable dogs having homes and owners have been among those destroyed. No doubt mistakes are occasionally made; but the work is on the whole a useful use, and we much regret to hear that the vigilance of one policeman in attempting to capture a well-known pest to the Cathedral Compound has resulted in his death from hydrophobia. Deceased's name was John Luiech. Shortly before five o'clock on the morning of the 25th of last May, he was on duty in the Kiukiang-road, when he came across the dog described. In his endeavours to capture him, the brute bit him severely on the right hand, and likewise grazed the skin of both legs. He reported the occurrence at the Central Station, and Dr. Henderson attended to the wounds. For five days Luiech was off duty, but did not regard the injuries as anything serious; and to all appearances they got perfectly well. During the three months that have since elapsed he has performed his duty, and it was only on Thursday week that he complained of feeling unwell. He was requested to see Dr. Henderson, who at once ordered him to the hospital. The symptoms of hydrophobia rapidly developed; and his death was, as has been the result in the majority if not all of such cases, only a question of time. Occasionally he was conscious, and appeared to be quite himself, while at other times it was painful in the extreme to be near him. Gradually he got worse and worse, until death terminated his sufferings at a late hour on Saturday night.

FOOCHOW.

We take the following from the *Foochow Herald* :—

A courier service, under the auspices of the Commissioner of Customs, has been established between this port and Wenchow. A courier was despatched from this place on the 4th inst.

We understand that an effort is being made to wind up the Old Pilot Company, and we trust that the attempt will be successful, as the present state of affairs is neither conducive to the public interest nor beneficial to the men themselves.

A marked diminution in the death-rate has, we are happy to state, been established during the week in the city and suburbs. Although cholera is still in our midst, and extra attention to diet consequently imperative, there are no longer any apprehensions of panic, so perhaps it may be safely predicted that the fell disorder has done its worst—for a season at least.

There was a slight inaccuracy in our paragraph last week anent the steamship *Calabar*. That vessel was, we now learn, close to Sharp Peak, about a fortnight ago, disabled, and a delay of two days took place before a Chinese gunboat went to her assistance. When subsequently seen by the steamship *Yesso*, off Eckseu, the *Calabar* was slowly making her way under sail to Amoy, at which port she duly arrived, and is now undergoing heavy repairs, preparatory to resuming her voyage to Swatow.

With much regret we learn of the death, on the 1st instant, of Mr. John Gurney Fry, for many years resident partner in the firm of Messrs. Silverlock and Co., at this port. Latterly Mr. Fry had resided in England, where his premature death took place. The Foochow community are indebted to the deceased gentleman for his hearty assistance in several public undertakings, notably the Club, of which he was the principal promoter.

In regard to the Porter Case, allusion to which was made in our last issue, we understand that Messrs. Hannen and Ng-choy, barristers-at-law, have been retained by the Provincial Government. These gentleman arrived in Foochow a few days ago, and have since, we learn, had several conferences with the native officials. It is believed that a British subject by birth, though of Chinese parentage, is implicated, though to what extent we are not fully informed. The Cantonese tea-broker to whom we referred in our remarks last week is still in custody, and has been severely "examined," or, in other words, compelled to answer so-called legal interrogations to the satisfaction of the inquisitors. Our readers can guess how this triumph of justice has been accomplished.

HONG KONG.

Our advices by this mail extend to the 15th September; no later mail from London had arrived out.

The news from Hong Kong is not of a very important character, but the Legislative Council was appointed to meet on Monday, the 17th Sept., when it was expected some matters of importance would be brought forward. The *Daily Press* notices a rumour to the effect that some attempt had been made to institute a Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society in this Colony. A meeting of gentlemen requested by the Governor to consider the project was held, but was "strictly private." The above paper justly asks:—"Why strictly private? The matter is eminently one of public interest, and the proceedings ought undoubtedly to have been reported. Such societies at home generally court publicity in order to secure that support which is necessary to their existence, and what circumstances there are in Hong Kong to warrant a contrary course it is difficult to conceive. We see no reason why such a Society, if founded on a purely voluntary basis, should not try to do some good among discharged criminals, though we fear its efforts would be crowned with but a small measure of success. The impression of secrecy in the inception of the design is, however, likely to prove fatal to it. It can hardly be supposed for a moment that the adverse criticism to which most of the Governor's public acts have been subjected was the reason of the privacy. Mr. Hennessy has generally been looked upon as a gentleman who, like most of his countrymen, is willing to break a friendly lance with all comers, and as one not likely to object to criticism so long as it does not exceed the bounds of courtesy and fair play."

An extraordinary meeting of the shareholders in the China Traders' Insurance Company was held at the Offices in Queen's-road for the purpose of confirming the resolutions passed at the special general meeting held on August 21. There were present:—Messrs. H. Nelson (in the chair), A. Coxon, J. Fairbairn, T. C. Hayllar, Q.C., A. McHeaton, A. Lind, L. Mendel, H. Nicaise, L. Stael, and W. H. Ray, secretary. The Chairman proposed that the following resolutions, passed at the special general meeting held on the 21st ult., be confirmed:—

1. That Clause 5 of the Company's Memorandum of Association be altered by substituting for the words "Two hundred shares of five thousand dollars each," the words "Six hundred shares of sixteen hundred and sixty-six dollars sixty cents (\$1,666.66) each."

2. That Article 31 of the Company's Articles of Association be altered by substituting for the words "Two hundred shares of five thousand dollars" the words "Six hundred shares of sixteen hundred and sixty-six dollars sixty-six cents (\$1,666.66)." 3. That Article 75 of the Company's Articles of Association be altered by substituting for the word "Five" the word "Fifteen," and for the word "Twenty" the word "Sixty."

The motion being seconded, was duly carried.

A horrible murder of a child has taken place. The victim was a China girl six years of age, who had been tied to a tree and strangled, and the evidence went to show that violence had been done to her. A Chinaman had been arrested on suspicion, and the matter was being investigated when the mail left.

From the *Daily Press* we take the following items:—

H.M.S. *Curlew*, Captain Church, left on the 17th July last for the Sulu Islands, to observe the execution of the protocol recently concluded between Great Britain, Germany, and Spain. It was found that the treaty was duly observed, and the British vessels were able to trade freely between the Sultan's ports and the Spanish port of Sulu. We understand that the *Curlew* went round to the south side of the island of Sulu to communicate with the British vessels there, and while there Captain Church communicated with the Sultan. The British steamers *Pontiniac* and *Far East* were there, and found no obstacle in the way of trade on either side of the island. There was no fighting going on, and trade was unrestricted. The *Curlew* on her return called at Labuan and Manila.

The following account, duly certified, of the average amount of bank notes in circulation in Hong Kong, during the month ending Aug. 31, is published in the *Gazette* :—

Banks.	Average Amount.
Oriental Bank Corporation ...	\$323,218
Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China ...	750,375
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China ...	542,766
Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation ...	1,623,138
Total	\$3,239,497

From the monthly returns of the Acting Collector of Stamp Revenue, published in the *Gazette*, it appears that the revenue collected during the past month was \$11,821.13, and the total amount collected this year up to the 31st ult. was \$78,245.46, as compared with \$69,759.38 in the corresponding period of last year.

The Hong Kong Lodge of Good Templars held their anniversary tea and entertainment at the Temperance-hall. About sixty-five sat down to tea, after which the general public were admitted to the entertainment. The Rev. J. Henderson, seaman's chaplain, who took the chair, gave a short address, which was followed by musical performances, songs, &c., some of which were encored, and all of them much appreciated by the audience.

We learn by private advice from Shanghai that it has been definitely resolved to establish a Postal Department in connection with the Imperial Maritime Customs. It has not been ascertained whether they intend to join the Postal Union, but it is certain that the establishment of a Chinese Post-office would effect a great change in Shanghai by doing away with the local and national Post-offices. It would also be a great convenience at the outports.

Our readers will be interested to learn that the Emperor of China has sent a gold medal to Captain Vandel, master of the Danish barque *Assens*, now in this harbour, for having saved the crew of a Chinese junk and taken them to Amoy, about this time last year. The medal arrived here three days ago. This is a gratifying recognition of a foreigner's humanity, and the medal will no doubt be highly prized by Captain Vandel.

CANTON.

The *Daily Press* correspondent writes:—

On the 5th September there was an unusually heavy squall of wind and rain during the afternoon, and during its continuance a number of boats were capsized on the river. I hear that several lives were lost in consequence, but have received no particulars. A band of robbers took advantage of the storm to attack a house in the city, and carried off considerable booty. One of the rascals was captured, however, and handed over to the authorities.

On the morning of the 4th September the civil and military officials proceeded in the Viceregal Yamen to pay a visit of respect to his Excellency the Governor-General's mother, who celebrated her birthday on that date. On the following day the Governor-General returned the visits of the various officials. The above may not be of much interest to your readers, but it serves to show that women in China are not kept so much in the background as some imagine.

The river pirates keep moving. We are continually hearing of some of their doings. About a week ago a passenger and cargo-boat sailed from Canton to Sai Chew, a distance of thirty miles. When she had proceeded about half-way she met three piratical junks, who at once commenced an attack upon her. A stout resistance was offered for half-an-hour, but in the end the pirates succeeded in possessing themselves of the cargo, which was of a valuable description.

On the night of the 7th Sept. another encounter took place between a cargo-boat and two piratical junks, the result of which was opposite to that in the former case, the cargo-boat capturing the two attacking boats, and four of the pirates, the remainder jumping overboard.

The gambling-houses in the Western suburb are as flourishing as ever. The inhabitants of the neighbourhood have petitioned the authorities, but can obtain no relief. It is said the gamblers pay heavy black mail to the petty officers under whose jurisdiction they are, and are protected by them.

MACAO.

The correspondent of the *Daily Press* writes under date of Sept. 8:—

By the last mail Bishop Ennes received permission to go home on leave of absence on account of bad health.

H.E. Admiral Antonio Sergio de Souza, formerly Governor of Macao, is appointed Count of Varga and Governor-General of Goa, and his successor here, H.E. Jose Maria Lobo d'Avila, goes home to take the place of Count de Varga.

The Portuguese transport ship *Africa* is expected to leave in October with troops for the Macao station, and will probably arrive here in December. By the same ship is expected Mrs. Pedro Loureiro, late of Shanghai, who comes out to the East again to assume the functions of teacher in the Government school here. Mrs. Dr. Crespo, who has been residing in Lisbon for some time, is also expected to return to Macao by the *Africa*.

There has been some disturbance lately at Taipa, the Chinese complaining of the heavy taxation to which they were subjected. His Excellency the Governor, Senhor Carlos Eugenio da Silva, went over himself and settled everything peaceably. The taxes have been reduced, and the Chinese are now quite satisfied.

We have had very bad weather lately, but have hitherto escaped a typhoon, and now hope that the season will pass without a visitation of this scourge.

The lease of the gambling farm has not been settled yet, so far as I can learn. The old lease will expire on the 11th September, so that little time remains for making arrangements. I do not know what is likely to be done in the event of no further tender being made.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

The *China Mail* of the 12th September comments upon a somewhat arbitrary act of authority by the Governor-General of Saigon towards the last homeward M.M. steamer, the *Iraouaddy*. Upon her arrival at Saigon the Company's launch came off with a message that a telegram had been received from home stating that the *Anadyr* had been quarantined seven days at Marseilles, on account of cholera in Saigon, and advising that in future vessels were to stop at Cape St. James. The captain of the *Iraouaddy* accordingly turned round to go back without communicating with the shore, when he was stopped by the Governor's launch and ordered into port. The captain at first refused, but was eventually compelled to give way. The *China Mail* justly remarks that whatever the Governor's powers may have been for ordering the vessel into port, his action in subjecting a large mail steamer with her passengers to quarantine possibly at more than one port on her voyage home was such as would have drawn upon him exceedingly severe criticism in other places, and possibly official censure from the Home Government.

JAVA AND SUMATRA.

The following intelligence is translated from the Java papers:

Captain Robertson, of the British barque *Darmouth*, bound from Cardiff to Hong Kong, which passed Anjer to-day, requests that it be reported to Lloyds that on August 28 last, in 42° S. and 28° E., he spoke the British ship *Duchess of Argyle*, 1,600 tons burthen, from London to Melbourne, under shortened sail, having rigging, tackle, &c., overboard, and the hull damaged on the starboard side. She showed blue lights at daybreak, which were answered in like manner. The captain of the *Duchess* rejected every offer of assistance, and requested it to be reported that "everything was in order."

From Padang we have recently received the following letter:—

I hasten to furnish you with news from Samalangan which is perhaps not known to you, and has reached me by letters. People there have been terribly on the stretch. Several chief officers have been wounded. Our troops had a strong fort before them, and just when this was found out the enemy attacked us vigorously in the rear. For a moment the troops wavered. Matters were in such a critical state that the coolies and convicts were armed with the muskets of the fallen and the sick; they bravely fought along with the troops. It is to be hoped that these men will obtain pardon. Colonel Van der Heijden ordered an assault, but the troops hesitated as to the advance. At that time the colonel, when busy directing the artillery, for which purpose he had dismounted from his horse, was struck by a fragment of metal in the left eye. His eye is gone. Notwithstanding this dreadful wound the brave man did not forget his duty for a moment. He cast one look at the hesitating troops, and severely wounded as he is, he mounts his horse again, has the assault made, and to set the example gallops himself towards the fort with his one eye. Deafening hurrahs followed. The troops were inspired and the fort became ours, and in time, too, for there was hot work in our rear; not till then did the active colonel allow his wound to be looked to. As I have already stated, he has lost one eye, but is out of danger of his life.

Atchian news is that at Samalangan there has been hard fighting of late. Two forts and two fortified houses were taken. Yesterday our troops were before a main fort, and were heavily fired upon by the enemy. The colonel was wounded, but remained with the column. All at once he ordered the assault to be sounded, and, he himself riding in front, the troops stormed the fort at a run. A panic terror had laid hold of the enemy, and not one could save himself by flight, all of them being killed or made prisoners. The number of the enemy's dead and wounded is not stated, but it must have been considerable, if it be taken into account that we had two officers and ten privates killed, while five officers and fifty privates were wounded. Amongst the wounded officers is Major Palmer, of the British service. To day the white flag is flying everywhere in Samalangan, and the Samalangers wish now to treat.

LIND.—FINKELSTEIN.—On the 19th Sept., at Singapore, George Adolphus Lind, to Annie Leah Finkelstein, youngest daughter of M. Finkelstein.

DEATHS.

BARRADALE.—On the 28th Aug., at Taku, Frances Mary, daughter of the Rev. J. S. Barradale, aged 1 year and 3 months.

BEAN.—On the 21st Sept., on board the P. and O. steamer *Peshawar*, on his way home, Alfred Bean of China, youngest son of the late Benjamin Bean, of Cro don.

BIRD.—On the 7th Sept., at Pagoda Anchorage, Foochow, of cholera, William Bird, Gunner, Revenue Steamer *Fa-foo*.

EASTON.—On the 2nd Sept., at Shanghai, Harry Easton, aged 23 years.

EMMERSON.—On the 15th Sept., at Singapore, Maria, wife of Mr. C. Emerson.

HENDRICK.—On the 7th Sept., at Shanghai, William H. Hendrick, Consular Clerk at the U.S. Consulate-General.

JENKINS.—On the 25th Aug., at Hankow, suddenly, F. H. B. Jenkins, aged 41 years and 6 months.

KINDBLAD.—On the 19th Aug., at Newchwang, the infant daughter of A. W. W. Kindblad, I.M. Customs.

LUTZ.—On the 17th Sept., at Singapore, Miss Alouis Lutz.

RODYK.—On the 13th Sept., at Bauda Ellier, Malacca, Wilfrid Cyril Clarence, the infant son of William Alexander Rodyk, aged 5 months and 22 days.

STANLEY.—On the 28th Aug., at Tientsin, Jessie Mabel, youngest daughter of the Rev. C. A. Stanley, aged 2 years and 4 months.

WALKER.—On the 19th Sept., at Del Rey, Dickoya, Ceylon, Giles Frederick Whistler, the son of Giles F. Walker, aged four months.

Market Reports.

(For dates see first page.)

EXPORTS.

—

TEA.

HANKOW.—The business for the week had amounted to about 2,000 chests, some 9,000 chests having been shipped to Shanghai on native account. The settlements were all in the first two days of the week, foreign buyers having subsequently held off the market altogether. The stock had been reduced to about 3,000 chests, and arrivals had become very few. The recent drop in prices in Shanghai may very probably stop the preparation of many common teas that had been induced by the higher rates that were being paid a fortnight ago, the difference being exactly enough to prevent a loss on first cost. Prices had been:—Oopack, Tls. 10½ to 12; Oonfa, Tls. 14½; Oonam, Tls. 8½. Statistics to date were:—

	1877.	1876.
Total arrivals	... 617,000 chests	... 688,000 chests
Settlements and shipments	614,000	675,000
Stock	... 3,000	... 13,000

SHANGHAI.—*Black*:—A moderate business had been done during the week, settlements being:—Oopack, 500 chests at Tls. 12 to 15½; Oonfa, 1,000 chests at Tls. 11½ to 18; Oonam, 1,500 chests at Tls. 10½ to 11½; Ningchow, 3,500 chests at Tls. 15½ to 42; Hohow, 500 chests at Tls. 11½ to 26; total 7,000 chests, against 14,000 chests in the corresponding period last season. The *Celestial Empire* report says:—The chief feature in this week's business has been the large and sudden increase in our stock from 10,000 chests to 30,000. This has been caused by the arrival of 27,000 chests third-crop tea from Hankow and Kiukiang. These teas are the result of the orders sent up country during the excitement that ruled here some four weeks back, to re-open the firing hongs and buy as much leaf as they could get to lay down here at Tls. 10 per picul. The Hongmen had at that time already closed the packing hongs and left the country, and had this market remained quiet, we should then have had nothing else to arrive but a few trifling parcels packed by the growers themselves, and the deficiency from Hankow alone, instead of as now a possible five, would have been at least ten millions. Thus the bulk of the week's sales consists of these teas, which have realised Tls. 10½ to 12½, giving good profits. We now hear that no large quantity of leaf can be obtained from the growers at these low prices (\$4 to \$5 per picul), as they prefer to store it away to mix with their next year's first crop. It is useless to point out to ignorant rustics the eventually suicidal policy of this course. It has paid them well so far and will continue to do so until tea-tasters are instructed to put their special knowledge to use and to reject tea mixed with the previous season's leaf. To expect this to be done, however, is to expect a reform in the trade, and the Chinese are doubtless right in continuing to make hay while the sun shines. *Green*:—In these there had again been a moderate business, settlements being:—Moyue, 1,000 half-chests at Tls. 28½ to 29½; Fychow, 3,000 half-chests at Tls. 21 to 23; Pingsuey, 2,500 half-chests at Tls. 14½ to 33; Shanghai, 500 half-chests at Tls. 22. Total, 7,000 half-chests, against 14,000 half-chests for the same week last year. The *Celestial Empire* says:—The market has been quiet, and prices are nearly one tael lower all round. The fall would have been greater but for the fact that most teamen refuse to sell at even this reduction. The week's arrivals comprise 15,000 half-chests, and as the teamen are now daily bringing in their packings, with the present apathy of buyers it should not be long before the stock reaches 100,000, when we may expect more anxiety to sell to be shown. As compared with last year prices are now about twenty per cent. lower for Pingsueys and barely ten per cent. lower for country teas. Against this we have to place a difference in exchange, in favour of last year of five per cent. The crop thus far is marked by an unusual absence of really fine tea and a superabundance of good medium chops; while as yet the Chinese seem to have avoided packing very common teas altogether. We have now only one steamer actually on the berth for New York direct, the Loudoun Castle, advertised to load at £4. This vessel will however proceed to Japan to commence her loading, and is expected back in about three weeks' time to fill up in the China ports. The Glenartney is advertised for the same route, but has not yet arrived out.

FOOCHOW.—Messrs. Westall, Galton and Co.'s Weekly Letter says:—A further reduction has taken place in the amount of settlements as compared with previous weeks, and the market closes quiet, with a downward tendency. Latest advices from the North place the probable total yield at 50,000 chests short of last season; at this port the

deficit will probably reach 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 lbs., whilst Amoy and Canton will also send a smaller amount forward. Arrivals and settlements during the week are:—Arrived: Congou, 14,200 chests; Souchong, 900 chests; Oolong, 1,100 half-chests; Flowery Pekoe, 10-chests; Scented Teas, 3,000 boxes. Settled: Congou, 8,911 chests; Souchong, 342 chests; Oolong, 284 half-chests; Flowery Pekoe, 113 chests; Scented Teas, 1,921 boxes. Congou: Prices for all Teas except those possessing especial point have declined, and the basis of rates is fast approaching what it was before the rise, quoted in the last two reports, took place. Souchongs remain unchanged. Oolongs: Prices unaltered. Flowery Pekoe: A few chops have been taken for Bombay. Scented Teas show very little value, as teas now being purchased are of very poor quality. Quotations are:—Congou: Medium, 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 4d.; flavour to medium, 11½d. to 1s. 1½d.; common to good common, 8½d. to 11d.; dust to common, 5½d. to 8½d. Souchong: Fair to fine, 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 8d.; broken leaf to fair, 8½d. to 1s. 1½d.; dust to broken leaf, 6½d. to 8½d. Oolong: Fair to choice, 1s. 1½d. to 2s. 2d. Flowery Pekoe: Good fair to good, 1s. 5½d. to 1s. 11½d. Scented Orange Pekoe: Fair, 1s. 3½d.; dust, 6½d. Scented Caper: Common to fair, 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1½d.

SILK.

SHANGHAI.—Considerable transactions had taken place both on foreign and Chinese account at daily hardening rates, and closing prices showed an advance of fully Tls. 40 per picul during the week. Speculation accounted for a good deal of the advance, but continental buyers had been operating at quotations below. Buying was by no means general. Yake No. 3, Tls. 440; Buffalo Chop, Tls. 400; Blue Elephant Chop, Tls. 400; Bird chop Foong-long, Tls. 360; Dollar chop, SSS, Tls. 355; Market No. 4, Tls. 380 to 90; No. 4½, Tls. 360 to 70; No. 5, Tls. 330 to 50; Commonest, Tls. 320; Chin-Yung-Shin Kin-Ling, Tls. 375; Laeyang—Ordinary Market, Tls. 235 to 240; Rereeled Tsattees—Best Chop, Tls. 500 to 505; Chincums and Tiki—9 to 12 moss, Tls. 260 to 275.

1877-78 agst. 1876-77.

bales. bales.

Settlements since Sept. 1	...	1,800	...	3,000
Total Settlements and Reshipments to date	...	...	7,000	...
Stock estimated at	...	...	16,000	...

EXPORTS FROM YOKOHAMA.

TEA.

From May 1, 1876-7. From May 1, 1875-6. From May 1, 1874-5. From May 1, 1873-4.

To New York	... 10,670,287	... 13,127,857	... 10,952,774	... 8,409,838
“ San Francisco	3,092,709	3,154,806	4,461,329	3,459,132
“ Boston, Chicago, &c.	2,237,397	2,565,543	1,132,186	996,372
“ England	... 211,235	... 37,537	—	—

Total	... 16,211,628	18,885,743	16,546,289	12,865,342
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SILK.

From July 1, 1876-7. From July 1, 1875-6. From July 1, 1874-5. From July 1, 1873-4.

From England	... 10,760	... 4,878	... 5,214	... 7,015
“ France	9,584	8,362	6,246	6,254
“ America	150	108	115	162
“ Other countries	723	243	366	1,089

Total	... 21,217	... 13,591	... 11,941	... 14,520
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EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK—SEASON 1877-78.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Date.	From Shanghai and Hankow	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	Total Bales and Cases.
From May 16, 1877, to Sept. 7, 1877	63,889,030	33,707,562	67,2976	96,8233	107,981,677	6694
From May 16, 1876, to Sept. 7, 1876	60,796,943	34,878,914	16,404,655	9,802,623	107,140,907	16,032

TO THE CONTINENT.

From June 1, to Sept. 7, 1877	...	...	...	...	49,1516	3183
Do. do. to do. 1876	...	...	...	...	53,301,90	26011

TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

From June 1, to Sept. 7, 1877	...	...	...	...	21,054,614	1196
Do. do. to do. 1876	...	...	...	...	14,361,720	1933

TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

From June 1, to Sept. 7, 1877	...	...	...	...	11,897,408	
Do. do. to do. 1876	...	...	...	...	10,636,590	

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From	Tea-lbs.	Silk, bales	From	Tea-lbs.	Silk, bales
1843 to 1844	51,022,600	...	1864 to 1865	121,236,870	32,813
1845 to 1846	67,334,200	18,600	1865 to 1866	118,333,042	62,890
1850 to 1851	63,972,000	22,144	1866 to 1867	118,423,290	50,052
1853 to 1854	77,327,800	61,283	1867 to 1868	116,890,430	57,449
1855 to 1856	92,210,300	50,481	1868 to 1869	142,789,804	70,917
1857 to 1858	76,990,255	68,315	1869 to 1870	139,740,193	63,807
1858 to 1859	65,749,92	83,134	1870 to 1871	131,969,450	61,329
1859 to 1860	85,560,462	64,169	1871 to 1872	149,774,395	54,589
1860 to 1861	90,066,160	70,644	1872 to 1873	151,869,263	57,263
1861 to 1862	109,854,040	79,199	1873 to 1874	144,588,620	47,373
1862 to 1863	121,273,580	72,887	1874 to 1875	161,964,407	85,109
1863 to 1864	117,463,586	46,603	1875 to 1876	166,318,287	87,483

EXPORTS FROM SINGAPORE TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Total to Sept. 22, 1877.	Total to Sept. 22, 1876.
	Piculs.	Piculs.
Tin ...	14,016	32,192
Gambier ...	335,290	236,327
Cutch ...	2,209	1,314
Pearl Sago ...	51,757	48,892
Sago Flour ...	156,848	153,580
Tapioca ...	41,360	33,143
Black Pepper ...	92,009	88,390
White Pepper ...	32,447	20,346
Coffee ...	9,903	13,733
Guutta Percha ...	18,178	11,827
Gum Benjamin ...	1,586	1,561
Gum Copal ...	4,742	1,540
Gamboge ...	207	266
Rattans ...	52,996	50,197
Buffalo Hides ...	34,275	14,358
Cow Hides ...	705	2,084
Buffalo Horns ...	6,190	3,801

EXPORTS FROM PENANG TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Total to Sept. 17, 1877.	Total to Sept. 17, 1876.
	Piculs.	Piculs.
Tin ...	15,739	52,569
Sugar ...	119,664	77,355
Black Pepper ...	47,412	34,776
White Pepper ...	3,214	2,377
Cloves ...	213	17
Tobacco ...	1,534	7,618
Tapioca ...	15,095	12,433
Hides ...	746	5,019
Horns ...	206	546
India-rubber ...	308	310
Mace ...	287	259
Nutmegs ...	667	1,104
Rattans ...	5,792	9,559
Coffee ...	145	47

COMPARATIVE EXPORTS FROM MANILA, CEBU, AND ILO ILO FROM JAN. 1 TO SEPT. 1, 1877 AND 1876.

Produce.	—	Great Britain		Continent of Europe		United States		Australia		San Francisco	
		1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.	1877.	1876.
Sugar	Tons.	4,995	33,535	1842	1094	5,078	37,967	—	973	6,517	15,638
Hemp	Bales.	96,90	101,77	764	27,70	101,729	57,493	227	7182	610	18,772
Coffee	Tons.	1,655	503	144	166	—	—	—	—	119	303
Cigars	Mil.	8,057	5678	1660	332	710	235	4,055	3737	250	273
Indigo	Quls.	959	159	—	32	1984	1629	—	—	—	—

EXPORTS FROM JAVA FROM AUG. 1 TO AUG. 31, 1877.

To Holland.	To France.	To Italy.	To Singapore.	To Denmark.	To Channel f. o.
Coffee ... piculs ...	21,133	7,081	—	—	—
Sugar ... "	16,862	30,011	—	—	239
Rice ... "	1,100	—	—	13,450	—
Pepper ... lbs. ...	1,252	—	—	424	—
Indigo ... lbs. ...	120,477	4,300	—	—	—

EXCHANGES, &c.
[For dates see first page.]
ON LONDON.

At	Bank Bills.	Credits.	Documentary.
Yokohama, 6 m.s.	4s. 0d.	4s. 0d.	4s. 0d.
Shanghai, "	5s. 4d. to 5s. 5d.	5s. 5d.	5s. 5d.
Canton, "	3s. 11d.	3s. 11d.	3s. 11d.
Hong Kong, "	3s. 11d.	3s. 11d.	3s. 11d.
Singapore, "	3s. 11d.	3s. 11d.	3s. 11d.
Penang, "	3s. 11d.	3s. 11d. to 4s. 0d.	4s. 0d. to 4s. 0d.
Manila, "	4s. 0d.	4s. 0d.	4s. 1d.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—	At Shanghai.	At Hong Kong.
Bills on India ...	Rs. 305 to 306	Rs. 291
Hong Kong ...	27 1/2 to 27 1/2 dls.	—
Bar silver ...	Tls. 111.2.0	8f. prem. (nominal)
Mexican dollars ...	Tls. 73.5.25	1 prem (nominal)

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 46 prem.
Shanghai Dock Company, Tls. 235.

Shanghai Gas Company, Tls. 145.

Steam Tug and Bort Association, Tls. 160 (nominal).

French Gas Company, Tls. 734.

Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$670.

North China Insurance Company, Tls. 860.

Yangtze Insurance Association, Tls. 770.

Union Insurance Society, \$300.

China Traders Company (Limited), \$2,700.

China Fire Insurance Company, Tls. 165.

Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Company, Tls. 91.

Chinese Imperial Loan, £104.

Footung Dock Company, Tls. 88.

China Coast Steam Navigation Company, Tls. 70.

Shanghai Steam Navigation Company (in liquidation), Tls. 30.

SINGAPORE SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Tanjong Pagar Dock Shares (\$100 paid), \$140.

New Harbour Dock Company (\$100 paid), par.

Singapore Gas Company (25 paid), par.

Galena Mining Company (\$35 paid), nominal.

Singapore Steamship Company (Limited), par.

HONG KONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 46 per cent. prem.

Hong Kong Gas Company, \$75 per share, nominal.

Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, 23 per cent. discount.

China Traders' Insurance Company, \$2,500 per share.

Hotel Shares, \$50 per share.

Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, 15 per cent. dis.

Hong Kong Fire Insurance Company, \$65 1/4 per share.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, \$900 per share.

China Fire Insurance Company, \$167 per share.

Chinese Insurance Company, \$255 per share.

Chinese Imperial Loan, £103 (exchange is. 1d.).

Shanghai Steam Navigation Company, Tls. 30 per share, nominal.

* The latest telegrams report the rate for six months bank bills at Singapore

4s. 0d., Hong Kong 4s. 0d., at Shanghai 5s. 5d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London, Oct. 21, Kingdom of Sweden.

At HIIGO.—From New York, Sept. 17, C.S. Bushnell.

At SHANGHAI.—From London, Oct. 23, Glenfinlas (str.).

At HONG KONG.—From New York (for Y-kohama), Oct.—Alice (from London, Oct. 24, Kate Carnie; from Cardiff, 24, Oneida; from Liverpool, 24, Sophia, Staghound; from Hamburg, 24, Rhuddlau Castle).

At SAIGON.—From Marseilles, Sept. 7, Charles Collet.

At BATAVIA.—From Holland, Sept. 7, Noah II.; 15, Henrietta Adriana, Ottolina; from Hamburg, 7, Eugenie; from Newcastle, 13, Tenna; from Boston, 14, Norway; from Rio Janeiro, 14, Svanen; 15, David Brown, Christel; from Bordeaux, 14, Madeline; from Rotterdam and Southampton, Oct. 14, Princes Amalia (str.); from Cardiff, 18, Sappho; from Pensacola, 20, Fannie.

At PADANG.—From New York, Aug. 21, Aegir; from Sunderland, 27, Maggie Dixon; from Cardiff, 27, Maufred.

At SAMARANG.—From Rotterdam, Sept. 4, Liberaal.

At SOUARAYA.—From Amsterdam, Sept. 5, Aardenburg; 10, Kersbergen.

At SINGAPORE.—From London, Oct. 19, Fleurs Castle (str.), and sailed for Hong Kong; from Cardiff, 21, Hernan.

At ANJER.—From Liverpool, for Singapore, Oct. 20, Frederick.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London, Sept. 2, Athol (str.); 3, John Milton; for Portland, Oregon, 6, Wigton.

From HONG KONG.—For Portland, Sept. 8, Loweswater; for London, 12, Killarney (str.); Oct. 1, Edinburgh Castle (str.).

From FOOCHOW.—For London, Sept. 4, Killarney (str.); 8, Athol (str.); for Sydney, 4, Maid of Judah.

From BANGKOK.—For Cherbourg, Sept. 10, Scharnhorst.

From BATAVIA.—For the Channel, f.o., Sept. 8, Araminta, Heros; 9, Andromeda; 13, Emilie; 17, Charles R. Lewis; 18, Gutenburg; for New York, 12, Valiant; 18, Clcta.

From SAMARANG.—For the Channel, f.o., Sept. 1, Irma; 4, Truth; 15, Island City; for Marseilles, 5, Albula (str.); for Queenstown, 7, St. Andrew's Castle; for Holland, 12, Derwent; for Marseilles, 15, Annie Lewis.

From SOUARAYA.—For the Channel, f.o., Sept. 1, Ecuador; 8, Furst Bismarck; 14, Antonia.

From PADANG.—For New York, Aug. 18, Kentish Tar; for Rotterdam, Oct. 18, Friesland (str.).

From SINGAPORE.—For London, Sept. 18, Athol (str.); 20, Boldon, Killarney (str.); 22, Leonora.

TELEGRAMS FROM THE FAR EAST.

THE WOOSUNG RAILWAY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

SHANGHAI, OCT. 25.—The Chinese authorities have officially taken possession of the Woosung Railway, and have stopped the traffic.

SHIPPING POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT IN THE TABLES.—Oct. 13, at Helsingfors, from Sourabaya, Canahore; 19, at Marseilles, from Samarang, Albula (str.); 22, at Ymuiden, from Bassein, Nuova Savona; at Terneuse, for Ghent, from Akyab, Auguste; at St. Nazaire, from Akyab, Svea; 23, at Cuxhaven, from Rangoon, Carmelina; 24, at London, from Hankow, John R. Worcester; 25, at Liverpool, from Rangoon, Corby; at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Secundo B.; from Maulmain, Assur; at Boston, from Manila, Mary Whitridge, South American; from Singapore, Mc'lican; 26, at London, from Rangoon, Menam; 3, at Astoria, from Hong Kong, Pilgrim, Emily Chaplin; 13, Leading Wind; 23, at Marseilles, from Sourabaya, Bengal (str.); 24, at Amsterdam, from Maulmain, Romania; at Bremen, from Akyab, San Bartolomeo; 25, at San Francisco, from Hong Kong, Formosa; 26, at London, from Manila, Lord of the Isles.

DEPARTURES.—Oct. 24, off North Foreland, for Macassar, Ferdinand en Louis, from Newcastle; 23, from Cuxhaven, for Hong Kong, Anna Bertha.

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.—Oct. 21, Feronia, Hamburg for China; 24, Glenegales, Foochow, for London.

SPOKEN.—Annie, Liverpool to Batavia, Sept. 5, 18 S., 23 W.; Joanna Margaretha, Rotterdam to Sourabaya, Sept. 19, 2 N., 24 W.; River Lagan, Cardiff to Hong Kong, Sept. 29, 17 N., 26 W.

CASUALTIES.—Gravesend.—Oct. 26, the Noah I., from Rotterdam to Batavia, has come here, with windlass damaged.—Gibraltar.—Oct. 20, in the case of the Fair Leader, put in here from London to Japan, with crew refusing to proceed, the surveyors declare the ship perfectly

seaworthy, and seven men have been sentenced to twelve weeks' imprisonment.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Malta.—Oct. 24, passed Gordon Castle, London to Singapore, &c.

RATES OF POSTAGE TO THE FAR EAST.

VIA BRINDISI.

To	Letters.	Post Cards.	Newspapers.	Book Pkts
China, Hong Kong,				
Japan, Siam, Sarawak,				
Straits Settlements,	8d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. ...	4d. each ...	2d. per 4 oz. ...	3d. per 2 oz
Ceylon, Labuan, Java,				
Cochin China, and				
Philippine Islands ...				

VIA MARSEILLES (by French Mail).

To	Letters.	Post Cards.	Newspapers.	Book Pkts
China, Hong Kong,				
Japan, Siam, Sarawak,				
Straits Settlements,	6d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. ...	3d. each ...	1d. per 4 oz. ...	2d. per 2 oz
Ceylon, Labuan, Java,				
Cochin China, and				
Philippine Islands ...				

VIA SOUTHAMPTON.

To	Letters.	Post Cards.	Newspapers.	Book Pkts
China, Hong Kong,				
Japan, Siam, Sarawak,				
Straits Settlements,	6d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. ...	3d. each ...	1d. per 4 oz. ...	2d. per 2 oz
Ceylon, Labuan, Java,				
Cochin China, and				
Philippine Islands ...				

VIA SAN FRANCISCO (by American Mail).

China and Hong Kong ...	6d. per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. ...	—	2d. per 4 oz. ...	2d. per 2 oz
Java ...	... 6d. ...	3d. each ...	1d. ...	2d. ...

* * * As no post-cards bearing impressed stamps of higher value than 1d. have been issued, the ordinary post-cards now in use must be employed when it is desired to send a post-card to the Far East, adhesive stamps being affixed to the cards to make up the amount of the postage required. There are no post-cards for Siam and Sarawak.

THE DISMISSAL OF MR. ROMANO.

A correspondent at Lisbon writes as follows on the above subject:—

I am glad to see that you have called attention in your paper to the injustice which has been done to Mr. Romano, in dismissing him from the post he had so long and so creditably held. Nobody here seems exactly to know why he had the Consul-Generalship taken away from him, but it is strongly suspected that it was through the influence of Monseigneur Itaimondi, the Catholic Bishop in Hong Kong. Unfortunately, no one here seems to care anything about either Hong Kong or Macao. The Government only try to get as much out of the gambling-houses at the latter place as they can, and the rest may take care of itself. In fact, it is more difficult by far to get up any interest here in the Far East than it is even in London, and, as you know, that is a difficult task enough. No wonder the coolie abuses in Macao had such a long run.

CHINESE LABOUR IN AMERICA.

Sir David Wedderburn has written the subjoined letter to the *Scotsman* on the above subject:—Throughout the United States generally the relations between capital and labour are now in a somewhat "strained" condition, but in the States lying west of the Rocky Mountains a peculiar element is introduced into the matter by the presence of a large Chinese population. In China and throughout Eastern Asia Chinese competition is formidable to the European capitalist and man of business. The Chinaman is contented with small profits, lives economically, and works with untiring diligence, so that in cities like Singapore and Hong Kong, where property is secure from official spoliation, he rapidly accumulates wealth, and the results are apparent in the gradual purchase by Chinese from Europeans of the best business and building sites in the place. It seems in Eastern Asia to be a mere question of time for the Chinese merchants and bankers to get all business into their own hands, by underselling and buying up their European competitors. In Western America the case is very different. Here also the Chinaman abounds, but he belongs to the labouring, not to the mercantile class, and comes into collision, not with the white capitalist, who eagerly welcomes his cheap industry, but with the white working man. In California, the hostility of the Caucasian towards the Mongolian has always mouldered, occasionally blazing forth from special circumstances, as at the present time, when things look particularly unpleasant for the Chinese—so much so, that of late the numbers crossing from China to America have not greatly exceeded those returning homewards to the Flowery Land. Californian politics turn to a large extent upon the question of Chinese immigration; goods are advertised for sale as "the product of white labour only," and strong appeals are made to the public not to take the bread out of the mouths of white women and children by the employment of "John Chinaman." Indeed, the strongest case against the Chinaman is that he makes it hard for a white woman to earn an honest livelihood as laundress or housemaid in California, and here a genuine grievance seems to exist, of which Californian chivalry is entitled to make the most. I regret to say, however, that in Ohio a short time ago all the men in a factory struck work, because the manufacturer refused to dismiss the female employees of his establishment. Dislike to cheap labour has in the minds of working men in America more to do with the Chinese difficulty than antagonism of race, or zeal for the industrial welfare of the weaker sex, and at the present time the question is one the interest and significance of which is by no means limited to the shores of the Pacific Ocean.

THE MAILS THROUGH EGYPT.—In a telegram received from the British Postmaster at Alexandria, it is announced that the mails for India despatched from London, *via* Brindisi, on the 19th instant, and due at Alexandria yesterday, will, owing to the partial destruction of the Egyptian Railway by floods, be conveyed from Ismailia to Suez by Government steamer.

BRITISH SUBJECTS IN CHINA.—ORDER IN COUNCIL.

The subjoined Order in Council—extending the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, Hong Kong, over British subjects in China on the main land to within ten miles of that Colony, and concurrently with the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court for China—appears in the *London Gazette* of the 26th inst.:—

Whereas by an Act of Parliament passed in the 7th year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled "An Act for the Better Government of Her Majesty's Subjects resorting to China," it is (amongst other things) enacted that it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by an Order or Orders made with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council, to ordain, for the Government of Her Majesty's subjects being within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or being within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China, any law or ordinance which to Her Majesty may seem meet, as fully and effectually as any such law or ordinance could be made by Her Majesty in Council for the Government of Her Majesty's subjects being within the Island of Hong Kong. And whereas Her Majesty was pleased by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, by Order in Council of the 9th day of March, 1865, to ordain (among other things) that all Her Majesty's jurisdiction exercisable in China or in Japan for the judicial hearing and determination of such matters as are by the 4th section of the said Order specified should be exercised according to the provisions of the said Order and not otherwise, and that, save as expressly provided by the said Order, all jurisdiction, power, and authority of the Supreme Court of Hong Kong exercisable in relation to British subjects resident in or resorting to China or Japan should absolutely cease. And whereas, by the Foreign Jurisdiction Amendment Act of 1866 it was enacted that it should be lawful for Her Majesty in Council, by Order in Council, under the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts, to confer upon any Court in Her Majesty's possessions out of the United Kingdom, any jurisdiction which Her Majesty in Council might lawfully by any such Order confer on any Court in any country or place out of Her Majesty's dominions within which Her Majesty has power or jurisdiction. And whereas Her Majesty was pleased by, and with the advice of Her Privy Council, by another Order in Council of the 28th day of March, 1868, to ordain (amongst other things) that in addition to the powers then vested in the Supreme Court of Hong Kong the said Supreme Court might have jurisdiction over and take cognisance of all crimes and offences committed by British subjects at any place on land being within six miles of any part of the Colony of Hong Kong, and not being on the mainland of China, and of and over all disputes and differences between British subjects being in any such place within such limit as aforesaid. And whereas, it has seemed to Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to be expedient to revoke the said last-mentioned Order in Council and to extend the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Hong Kong, in respect to matters arising in the neighbourhood of the Colony of Hong Kong. Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue of the powers in this behalf by the said recited Act, or otherwise vested in Her, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

I. In addition to the powers now vested in the said Supreme Court of Hong Kong, the said Supreme Court may have jurisdiction over and take cognisance of all crimes and offences committed by British subjects at any place on land, being within ten miles of any part of the colony of Hong Kong, and of and over all disputes and differences between British subjects, being in any such place within such limit as aforesaid. And the said Court shall and may deal with, try, hear and determine all such cases as fully and effectually as if such crimes or offences had been committed, or such disputes or differences had arisen by or between British subjects within the said colony of Hong Kong.

II. The said Order in Council of the 28th day of March, 1868, is hereby revoked, except for the purpose of completing any proceedings, criminal or civil, which may have been commenced thereunder, before this Order is published in the said Colony of Hong Kong, and any proceedings so commenced may be completed and any sentences and judgments given therein may be executed as fully and effectually as if this Order had not been made.

The jurisdiction hereby conferred upon the Supreme Court of Hong Kong shall be in addition to any concurrent with any power or jurisdiction now possessed by the Supreme Court for China or Japan, or any Provincial Court under the said Order in Council of the 9th of March, 1865, to deal with, try, hear and determine such cases as are herein-mentioned, and nothing in this Order contained shall affect the power of the said Supreme Court for China or Japan, or of any Provincial Court under the said last-mentioned Order in Council, to deal with, hear, try and determine such cases.

Literature, Science, &c.

The number of volumes which are announced for the Christmas book campaign show that there is no want of activity in the publishing world, but doubt is felt whether, with the numberless demands which have been made upon the British purse, the public will respond as well as usual. Among the publications forthcoming is an *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, by Dr. Hunter, a work destined to supply for the first time a systematic account of our Indian Empire. It will be arranged on an alphabetical principle, and will comprehend the entire peninsula, including the settlements of the French and Portuguese. A novel which has a direct bearing upon the Coolie question, namely, "Luchmee and Dilloo," by Mr. Edward Jenkins, has been published by Messrs. Mullan and Sons. The story is placed in British Guiana, but whenever Mr. Jenkins introduces any fact which bears on the treatment of coolies, but which did not happen in Guiana, he carefully states this in a note. The effect is bad in two ways—it is felt to be unfair, and it is felt to be futile. When an author draws an elaborate picture of a brutal assault committed in full view of the club-house of the capital of a British colony, with the approval of the members, and then tells us at the foot of the page that the prototype occurred in another hemisphere, the reader feels that there is something wrong somewhere. Messrs. Brendon and Son, of Plymouth, publish "Niphon and its Antiquities," by Mr. Cope-land Borlase. It is devoted to the ethnology, mythology, and religions of the Japanese, and the information which he supplies upon each subject is not only based upon a careful perusal of the best authorities, but upon his own knowledge and personal examination of the chief antiquities. The result of the whole is a book, or pamphlet rather, full of interest, especially now, when Japan has thrown off the old restrictions that surrounded her, and European trade has introduced with a marvellous rapidity all kinds of European fashions. Sir Rutherford Alcock is to contribute an article on Africa to an early number of *Macmillan's Magazine*. A French translation of Messrs. Audsley and Bowes's magnificent work on Japanese Ceramic has just been issued by the house of Firmin-Didot. It is to be completed in seven numbers.

The *Quarterly Review* for October contains a weighty and well-written article upon Confucian Cosmogony. It is written specially in connection with the life and doctrines of the Philosopher Choo-Foo Tsze, and is based upon Canon McClatchie's recent works, and the Rev. Dr. Eitel's pamphlet on Fung Shui. The controversy with reference to the Chinese ideas of God, and the meaning of the word Shangte is fully explained. The writer holds that it is not correct to imagine the Chinese are materialistic; but that they worship the heavens not as a vesture or the seat of Deity, but as a part of the great animated cosmos in which the spiritual Power, the beginning of everything and the ruler of everything, is inherent. He considers that beyond the sphere of missionary controversy Canon McClatchie's labours have a distinct scientific value, one point at least being ascertained from them, namely, that the Chinese system is material, like most other heathen systems, and that the great Monad of Confucius resembles the Monad of Pythagoras.

The *Academy* states that the unique collection of specimens of the ancient art of Cambodia brought by M. Louis Delaporte to France as the result of his expedition undertaken in 1873 has been arranged provisionally in the Château of Compiègne, there being no room for these gigantic relics of a past civilisation in the Louvre. They consist of seventy pieces of sculpture and architecture, including several remarkable statues of Buddha and a stone group of two giants, one of whom has five heads and ten arms. These remains were found in the midst of a dense growth of forest along the banks of the Tonking river in the kingdoms of Cambodia and Siam.

The Society of the Liverpool Art Club has recently opened an Exhibition of fans, which had been long announced and in preparation. Not far short of two hundred fans are exhibited, and though the collection is not equally rich in fans of all places and periods, no fan-producing country is altogether unrepresented. Mr. Audsley, who, we hear, has taken a great part in forming the present Exhibition, has put his name at the bottom of the readable account of the art and history of fan-making, which appears as preface to the descriptive catalogue. There are Indian and Chinese fans of much interest in the collection, though probably no Indian fan of the rare value of that reported to be in the collection of the Baroness Salomon de Rothschild—a fan with handle of jade enriched with rubies. The Japanese portion of the Exhibition is not numerically strong, and would, Mr. Audsley modestly avows, have been poor indeed had it not been for the loan of several very remarkable and highly interesting specimens from among the Japanese treasures carefully gathered-up by our *collaborateur*, M. Burty. The Chinese generally allow that the folding fan was a Japanese invention. Mr. Audsley refers to M. Burty's contribution of "fans of war and ceremony." But, in truth, as Mr. Audsley is himself perfectly aware, many fans were in some sense fans both of war and ceremony. They were mostly massive in Japan, and though the mounts of the Court fans were ornamented in the finest, freest, yet most careful, taste, they were also of sufficient

strength to be somewhat formidable weapons ready for use, in ante-chambers of the Court, should occasion require their service.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

At the New Shakspere, on October 12, F. J. Furnivall, Director, in the chair, Mr. Furnivall reviewed the work of the Society and its leading members during and since last Session, and then read the following papers:—1. By Mr. P. A. Daniel, "On the Mistakes in the late Mr. Halpin's Short-Time Analysis of the *Merchant of Venice*" showing that, instead of thirty-nine hours, eight days, with two intervals of days or weeks, were required by the words of the play. 2. By Mr. P. A. Daniel, showing that the meaning of Iago's squadron in *Othello*, I. i. 22, was "a corporal's guard of twenty or twenty-five men." 3. By Mr. Wilkins, "on *As You Like It*," III. iii. 3." 4. By Dr. Brinsley Nicholson, an illustration, in 1640, of the liar believing his lie by oft telling of it (*Tempest*), and some mention of Shakespeare in George Wither's "Great Assizes holden in Parnassus," 1645. 5. By Mr. Furnivall, "A Confirmation of William Herbert being W. H. of the Sonnets," and sundry notes on various passages.

At the Entomological Society, on October 3, Professor J. O. Westwood, President, in the chair, Mr. W. L. Distant exhibited an example of the depredations of *Dermestes vulpinus* in a cargo of hides imported from China, which on arrival had been found to be swarming with the insect in all stages. Mr. McLachlan exhibited a portion of a wooden case, in which hides had been brought from Shanghai, and which was in like manner riddled with the borings of the larvae.—Professor Westwood exhibited drawings of the pupa of a species of *Phryganæa* which swam about in water like a *Notonecta*, only using its middle legs as swimming apparatus.

Naval and Military.

The Foreign-office have permitted, at the request of the Kalahome of Siam, two drill and gunnery instructors to enter the service of the Siamese Government.

Mr. Arthur Moreton, late engineer, R.N., has been selected for the appointment of Professor of Practical Marine Engineering at the Chinese Imperial Arsenal, Foochow.

Captain T. M. Jones, who has been appointed to the command of the Steam Reserve at Portsmouth, vice Captain G. H. Parker, appointed Superintendent of Pembroke Dockyard, was on the China Station during the war in 1858-59, serving in the expedition to Hankow. He received a medal for China and promotion to the rank of commander.

Lieutenant Ernest N. Rolfe, who has been appointed to the Royal yacht Victoria and Albert, was employed as acting sub-lieutenant in the Basilisk, 6, Captain W. N. W. Hewett, V.C., on the China Station from September, 1867, until April, 1869, when he returned to England, and was paid off. In November following he was appointed to the Donegal, 51, under his former captain, for passage to China, where in May, 1870, he removed into the Rinaldo, 7, and in January, 1871, was transferred to the Ocean, 24, again under Captain Hewett, and bearing the flag of Sir Henry Kellett, K.C.B., and returned in her to England, and was paid off in June, 1872. He again served under Captain Hewett in the Active, which during her commission of three years and a half rendered a good deal of service, her officers and crew having furnished the greater part of the naval brigade during the Ashantee War, and also took part in the expedition up the Niger River.

Captain Samuel Brooking Dolling (Retired List) died at his residence, Bridgetown, Devon, on the 15th inst., aged sixty-six years. This officer entered the Navy in 1828, as first-class volunteer. During the first war in China Mr. Dolling was present at the occupation of Chusan, and in the two attacks on Canton; on the latter of which occasions he was spoken of in the highest terms for assistance he rendered at the destruction of a line of defence extending about two miles from the British factory. He was also, at the same period, mentioned for his conduct at the destruction of a fleet of more than thirty war-junks and fishing-vessels. After the reduction of the batteries at Amoy, in 1841, he joined (having been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant (*the Blonde*)). On March 10, 1842, he commanded the boats of that frigate, in conjunction with those of the *Hyacinth*, at the destruction of ten fire-vessels off Chinghæ. He served afterwards on shore with a division of seamen in the hostilities against Tse-Kee; was employed at the taking of Chappo and Woosung; succeeded Lieut. Crouch, who had been wounded, in command of the boats at Chin-Kiang; and finally, when in personal command of his former ship, the *Algerine*, received the thanks of Sir William Parker for his assistance in finishing the survey of the islands off the Yangtze. He had received the China medal.

A large and commodious Soldiers' and Sailors' Home and Institute in the Military-road, Chatham, has been opened by Lieutenant-General Erskine, K.C.B., the general in command of the district, and there were present Vice-Admiral Sir W. King Hall, Rear-Admiral Charles Fellowes, Colonel Sir John Stokes, Colonel Pym, R.M., Colonel Cox, R.E., Major Keith, &c. The home has in it twenty-two rooms, including reading, bed, recreation, smoking, and refreshment rooms, a lecture hall capable of seating 200 persons, rooms for night school and science classes and for devotional purposes.

Lieutenant Digby, in command of the Jackal, not long since received the thanks of the Austrian Government for assistance rendered under considerable difficulties to the shipwrecked crew of an Austrian barque. Since then that Government has notified its desire of marking

its sense of the value of the efforts of the Jackal by making some reward to the crew, and a sum of nearly £100 has been forwarded to the Admiralty through the Foreign-office for that purpose. The money will be distributed amongst the men alone, no officer of any grade whatever participating.

It is stated that Rear-Admiral G. O. Willes, C.B., at present Superintendent of Devonport Dockyard, will relieve Vice-Admiral Sir Beau-champ Seymour in the command of the Channel Squadron. Rear-Admiral William G. Luard, C.B., is named as the successor of Rear-Admiral Willes at Devonport, but it is believed that he will eventually proceed to Portsmouth Dockyard.

The Merlin, 4, composite gunboat, 430 tons, 423-horse power, at Devonport, has had her hull, both inside and outside, thoroughly repaired, bottom recoppered, new rigging rove, engines thoroughly repaired, and new boilers fitted at a cost of £8,762. The whole of the repairs have been effected while the vessel was on the docking tray.

A work is in hand, the want of which has been much felt throughout the Naval Service, and more or less so by all connected with it. This is a "Royal Navy List," which is to contain the name and services of every officer now serving or retired, and which it is intended shall be published quarterly, commencing on January 1 next.

Letters received from Her Majesty's ship Teazer, cruising in the Persian Gulf, bring news of an attack upon Muscat, the capital of the states of the Imam of Muscat, by Bedaween Arabs.

COMMERCIAL FIRMS.

Mr. Richard Seyd has published the subjoined interesting statistics regarding the rise and fall of commercial firms in London during the years specified:—At the beginning of 1877 there existed in the City of London 11,449 firms engaged in wholesale business—i.e., in the banking, financial, insurance, &c., business, in international and local general wholesale trade—exclusive of Stock Exchange, publishing, retail, and small industrial trades, &c. The year of establishment of these firms may be summarised as follows:—

Year.	No.	Year.	No.
Before 1750	34	Before 1866	317
1800	238	1867	325
1820	467	1868	330
1830	406	1869	375
1840	699	1870	359
1850	911	1871	495
1860	1,699	1872	396
1861	188	1873	513
1862	234	1874	621
1863	260	1875	660
1864	303	1876	1,044
1865	275		

In order to show the vicissitudes of business, it may be stated that in 1866, for instance, about 600 new firms established themselves, of which, in 1877, only 317 remained, and for the period from 1866 to 1877 the statement is:—

Year of Estab- lishment.	Still in exist- ence in 1877.	Year of Estab- lishment.	Still in exist- ence in 1877.
1866	595	317	645
1867	554	325	753
1868	603	330	792
1869	702	375	864
1870	653	359	1,044
1871	798	495	

It is a curious fact that, although since 1871 business has been far from good, yet the number of houses has increased at a greater ratio than before. The greater part by far of the increase consists of small firms in the commission trade, agents of manufacturers from the provinces and abroad. The net increase in all the trades from 1871 is about 2,000. In 1876 there were established 1,044 new firms, of which 550 are merchants (about 45 colonial houses), commission houses, and agents, 139 importers of foreign goods, warehousemen, furriers, manufacturers of trimming, &c., 75 wine merchants and agents, 63 ship and insurance brokers and agents, 32 in the tea trade, 18 colonial brokers, 18 cigar and tobacco merchants, 11 hop merchants; the rest being divided among various branches. The increase in the commission and agency business for manufacturers abroad is strangely borne out by our imports. The total imports in 1871 amounted to £331,000,000; in 1876 to £375,000,000, an increase of £44,000,000. Out of the number of firms established in 1876 more than 200 at least are no longer in existence; 38 have been officially reported as having failed.

THE WRECK REGISTER.

A perusal of the annual wreck register, recently issued for the year commencing on July 1, 1875, and ending on June 30, 1876, shows that the wrecks and casualties at sea have been more numerous than in any previous year since a record of these disasters has been systematically kept by the Marine department of the Board of Trade. It is only right, however, to point out here that this large increase is to some extent accounted for by the greater care now shown in furnishing and compiling these returns. For instance, the present register comprises about 850 minor casualties which formerly would not be considered of sufficient importance to be included. The number of wrecks, casualties, and collisions from all causes on and near the coasts of the United Kingdom, and in the surrounding seas, reported during the year 1875-6, is 3,757, being 167 in excess of the number reported in the previous year. Of this large number 502 cases involved total loss, against 472 and 408 respectively for the two previous years. Between 1861 and 1875-6 the number of vessels, British and foreign, which met with casualties attended with loss of life on the coasts and in the seas of the United Kingdom was 2,592, involving the drowning of 12,322 persons; and that in the year 1875-6 loss of life occurred in one out of every twenty-two of the casualties. Of the 4,554 ships concerned in the casualties, 3,602 are known to have belonged to Great

Britain and its dependencies; and 152 (with a tonnage of 17,388 tons) were British vessels not registered under the Merchant Shipping Act. Five of her Majesty's ships, with a tonnage of 11,401 tons, that met with casualties, are included in this number; 2,678 were employed in the British coasting trade, and 1,076 in the (over sea) foreign and home trade. The disasters are thus classified: 775 collisions, 2,982 wrecks and casualties other than collisions. Of these latter 425 were wrecks, &c., resulting in total loss; 851 were casualties resulting in serious damage; and 1,706 were minor accidents. Five hundred and twenty-five of the ships were steamers, 139 were rigged as ships, 497 barques, 533 brigs, 505 brigantines, 1,317 schooners, and 199 smacks. Of the 4,554 vessels meeting with disaster, 2,024 did not exceed 100 tons burthen, and 1,561 were from 100 to 300 tons. Of the 502 vessels totally lost, 37 were known to have been built of iron, and of this number 31 were steamships and 6 sailing vessels. The localities of the wrecks are thus given: East coast, 2,119; south coast, 427; west coast, 822; N. and W. coast of Scotland, 83; Irish coast, 275; Isle of Man, 12; Lundy Island, 12; and Scilly Isles, 7. Although the greatest number of wrecks happen on the east coast, the greatest loss of life occurs on the west.

The whole number of lives lost was 778, notwithstanding the determined and ceaseless efforts of the craft of the National Lifeboat Institution. This number is 148 less than those lost in the previous year. Of the 171 ships, 143 were British, involving the loss of 580 lives, and 28 were foreign, involving the loss of 198 lives. It is satisfactory to find that 4,358 lives were saved during the year 1875-6 by the lifeboats of the National Lifeboat Institution, the rocket apparatus of the Board of Trade, ships' boats, coastguard and fishing boats, harbour lifeboats and various other means, the great majority being rescued by the 267 boats of the National Institution.

THE SUPPLY OF GOLD.

The Times says:—Although the measures adopted by the directors of the Bank of England during this month to prevent the margin of gold which we require to keep in readiness for contingent export demands from leaving us have for the present been effectual, we think it will be useful, seeing that we are drifting back into the old position with a diminished Bank reserve, to examine, so far as we are able, the present position of the gold supply which performs the function of currency and which plays in an uncoined form so important a part in adjusting international debts. The circumstances in which we find ourselves as regards the altered position of a large part of the available supply of gold are peculiar, if not unprecedented, and it is important especially for this money market, which is so much more sensitive than any other owing to its greater economic development, to endeavour to ascertain beforehand whether we are likely in the future—that is, during the period in which we must pay for the American grain—to have to adopt strong measures to keep the gold we require for our own use. In order to approach the hypothetical necessity of adopting strong measures from the beginning we will suppose, with circumstances as they are, that the Bank is menaced with a severe drain of gold to New York, which in fact may, so far as we can see, be said to be the case. The argument would seem to be a reasonable one that since Germany commenced her currency reform, and Sweden has replaced paper with gold, while the metal is being held tenaciously by France in preparation for resumption of specie payments, and by other States under the impression that it may be advisable perhaps for them to adopt the gold standard, a smaller proportion of the metal is now available for commercial purposes than was the case prior to 1873, while this condition of things will be aggravated as soon as the United States Government begins actively to compete in the market as a buyer of gold with a view to resumption of specie payments also. As we remarked on a former occasion, gold can always be forced from a country's coin circulation; but the settlement of international debts by such means is the most costly of all methods, and is only resorted to when all other means fail. The exportation and importation of bar gold are at best but clumsy expedients, but the exportation of coins is much worse. It is quite possible that unless new international facilities are devised for the settlement of trade debts a new difficulty will present itself when activity in commerce revives, owing to the floating supply of bar gold having been so largely transferred into fixed currency. Necessity, however, being the mother of invention, nothing will of course be done until the pressure is felt. The occurrence of the pressure will, perhaps, be the means of at last forcing upon Continental business people the advantages of the check system, which has played the part of currency for so many years in this country. If the supply of gold from the mines should increase in the future this fear need not, of course, be entertained, but so far as facts go they prove that for some years past the supply has decreased.

THE BLUE-BOOKS OF LAST SESSION.—The "Parliamentary Papers" of 1876 are now complete. The House of Commons fills no less than eighty-five volumes with its printed papers of that year. There are seven volumes of public Bills, many of which are reprinted in the course of their progress; seven volumes of reports from Select Committees; twenty-seven volumes of reports from Commissioners; forty-three volumes of other papers; and the last volume comprises the table of contents and index. The House of Lords has fewer papers laid before it, but fills fifty-nine volumes for 1876. The more important papers are the same in both Houses, but each has some which it jealously guards as its own, the House of Commons keeping the Estimates to itself, for instance, and the House of Lords peerage claims. These numerous volumes, though called "Parliamentary Papers," are, in fact, the annual collection of our public documents, the mode of issuing them being by presenting them to Parliament. In 1876 we find three volumes filled with papers relating to India, four volumes relating to the Colonies, and four volumes of reports from our Secretaries of Legation and Consuls in various parts of the world. There are reports from special Commissions, but the main body of "reports from Commissioners" comprises those which tell us what our public departments at home under their management are doing—the Local Government Board, the Inland Revenue Board, the Customs, the

Department of Prisons, Police, Education, Lunacy, Factories, and the like. There are many returns and papers relating to the Army and Navy, but no general review of their condition and work during the year, and for this we must have recourse to reports of the extempore speech by the Minister in the House of Commons on opening the discussion on the Estimates for these departments of the public service. "State Papers," containing correspondence (directly or indirectly) with foreign Governments, filled but three volumes in 1876. The cloud in the East had risen, indeed, but as yet the "Correspondence respecting affairs in Turkey and the insurrection in Bosnia and Herzegovina" did not fill a single volume during the Session. The number of papers of all kinds presented to the House of Commons, either by command of Her Majesty or on motion made by a member, and printed in 1876, without including the private business, exceeded 1,000 in all.

CHINESE IN QUEENSLAND.—A despatch from Brisbane states that Warden Coward has reported from the Palmer Gold Field that the camp near Maytown has been "stuck up" and robbed by Chinese, and £200 taken out of the safe, which was smashed to atoms. The orderly in charge was nearly killed. The Chinese came prepared with ropes and tools, and the orderly's head was lashed to a post; his feet were also lashed, his hands tied behind his back, a rope was put round his neck, and his head put in a bag. Mr. Coward traced and arrested two Chinese.

THERE has lately returned to England a gentleman who has spent nearly half a century out of it, Sir Charles Peter Layard, K.C.M.G. He was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, went to Ceylon in 1828 as a Civil servant, was appointed extra Assistant Colonial Secretary there in 1830, and after being promoted from one post to another, some eight in all, he was made Government Agent, and at the same time acted as Colonial Secretary. He was knighted last year. He is a cousin of Mr. Austin Layard, our ambassador at Constantinople.

THE P. and O. COMPANY'S STEAMER Peshawar brings the heavy portion of last inward mail, and £531,868 in specie, consisting of the following:—From Australia, 171,000 sovereigns and £85,921 in bar gold; from Yokohama, £58,902 in gold coin; from Hong Kong, 82,800 sovereigns; from Shanghai, £8,080 in gold coin; from Bombay, £121,049 in bar gold and £795 in silver coin; and from Alexandria, £3,330 in gold and silver.

GERMANY. (FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, OCT. 23.

The great event here during the past week has been the unveiling and consecration of a grand monument, erected in memory of those whose fate it was in the war of 1870 to lose their lives in helping to cement the great union of the German nation and the re-erection of the Empire. The monument has been placed in one of the finest streets of Hamburg, the Esplanade, in the vicinity of the Alster Basin, and has been very tastefully ornamented with surrounding flowers, &c. At the unveiling, which took place on Thursday last, were present the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg, the members of senate, the clergy, &c., and a great many citizens with their ladies, for whose accommodation large tribunes had been erected all round. Although the weather looked very sulky and threatening that day, still it kept dry during the ceremony.

The late gales have made fearful ravages in the North Sea, and the English steamship D'Amietta, from Danzig to England with a full cargo of grain, has sunk, the crew being saved. The Norwegian barque Orpheus, with a cargo of deals for England, was picked up derelict and brought in here by the Hamburg steamship Uhlenhorst. Wreckage is driving about everywhere.

The great social difficulty which has prevailed here for some years past, has been the obtaining of residences suitable for the middle classes. This trouble has not only utterly disappeared, but the supply now exceeds the demand. Notwithstanding the decided falling off in the number of the inhabitants, especially in the city itself, the building of new houses has gone on increasing, and there are at present so many on hand that owners before long will either have to lower their rents or to see their property remain valueless.

The German squadron which, since the return of the four ironclads, Kaiser, Deutschland, Friedrich Carl and Preussen, under Rear-Admiral Batsch, will have to protect the German interests in the Mediterranean is now comparatively small, consisting only of the two corvettes, Hertha and Gazelle, the gunboats Albatross and Comet, and the despatch-boat Pommernia, under command of Captain Kinderling as commodore. The squadron is to be reinforced at the end of this or the commencement of next month by the corvette Freya.

On the 20th inst. the Hamburg American Packet Company held a second extraordinary meeting of shareholders in order to confirm the resolution brought forward at the former meeting, held on the 6th, by the terms of which the paid-up share capital of 22½ millions of marks is to be reduced to fifteen millions. In this second meeting the proposals of the directors were agreed to by 1,512 to 2, and by 1,528 to 2 votes. The shareholders may therefore look for a distribution of a dividend for the year 1878 early in 1879.

The underground or subterranean telegraphic communication between Berlin and Kiel, as well as between the metropolis and other centres, is now nearly complete, and a member of the British Telegraph Staff has arrived in the capital in order to be instructed by our officials in this new mode of transmission, which has already proved itself to be a considerable improvement.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

Transactions on our Produce Markets have been influenced by the war and the high value of money; dealers are not inclined to enter into speculative operations, and as the demand has also diminished in consequence of the advancing season, there has been a want of animation, and sales have been only to a limited extent.

COFFEE.—Business during the past week has been very quiet, and only the arrivals of the new Brazil crop have met with any competi-

tion, the consumptive demand being of no importance. The market closed with a good tendency and firm values; Java quality is quoted m.1.05 to 1.50 per lb.

SUGAR.—No transactions in first hand parcels are reported. Quotations are:—Manila, brown, clayed, m.23 to 25½; do. unclayed, m.18 to 20; Mauritius, brown, m.18 to 24; do. yellow, m.26 to 28; Batavia, white, m.31 to 32½; do. yellow and grey, m.27 to 29½; do. brown, m.17½ to 24½; Siam, Benares and China, white, m.29 to 31; Zanzibar, brown and yellow, m.21 to 29½; China, brown and yellow, m.19 to 28 per 100 lbs.

RICE.—In consequence of the better tendency reported from the London market, holders of dressed quality are showing more reluctance, and are asking higher values, especially for inferior quality. Sales have been regular, and of an average extent. Of raw quality I have to report the arrival of 16,000 bags per Sarah and Emma, from Rangoon, and of 7,200 bags per Churchstow, from Bassein, which are gone direct to the mills.

TEA.—Is quiet. Of first hand parcels 600/16 boxes Moning Congou have been sold.

COTTON.—Shows continued quietness, and only some parcels of American provenience have changed owners.

SPICES.—Nutmegs are showing more animation, at m.2.80 to 3.20 per lb.; Mace is quoted m.2.20 to 2.30; Cloves: Amboina are scarce, Zanzibar in demand at m.140 to 141; do. Stalks firm, at m.38 to 39; Pepper quiet; Singapore, m.37 to 37½, Batavia and Penang, m.34½ to 35 White, m.65 to 72.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

The agitation of the previous week has been followed by a quieter and firmer tendency, the collapse of the Ritterschaftliche Private Bank at Stettin having had no direct influence here. Transactions, in spite of the better feeling, have been only of limited extent, although the Money Market has shown more easiness.

THE COAST OF SYRIA.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

HAIFA, SYRIA, SEPT. 30, 1877.

Mr. W. J. Gale, son of the artist, Mr. Gale, of London, came to Haifa at the end of November, 1876, and stopped at the hotel of the German colony here for about a month, but subsequently resided in the town of Haifa, in order to become acquainted, as he said, with the language and manners of the Arabs, during his stay of three months among them. After this he returned to the colony, and took board and lodging with Mr. Ch. Oldorf, an American citizen of our colony, and went into partnership with him for carrying on the business of farming. The harvest was pretty good here, but Mr. Gale preferred to dissolve his contract with Mr. Oldorf, as he intended to go to Egypt, after having first made a tour to Nazareth and Tiberias.

In the beginning of this month he left here in company with Mr. Walker, of London, who is also stopping with Mr. Oldorf, on his journey to Nazareth by wagon. Mr. Walker returned the next day, but Mr. Gale rode on to Tiberias; he, however, soon returned from there, but made the fatal and incomprehensible mistake of coming back on foot, all alone from Nazareth to Haifa, contrary to all warning and advice not to do it, in a time when all roads here are unsafe from roving Bedouins.

On the 14th inst. Mr. Gale was seen at Medschedel, two English miles from Nazareth, at nine A.M., walking alone on the Haifa-road, and at noon he was seen at Samunich, two miles further, but after that nothing more was seen of him. But as he was expected here in Haifa, and as no news arrived from him, we became more anxious about him from day to day, until Messrs. Walker and Oldorf concluded on Friday, the 21st inst., to search for him; they rode to Nazareth on the same night, and returned on the following night with the above reports. Mr. Gale had disappeared. Immediately a telegram was sent to Mr. Eldridge, the British Consul-General at Beyreut, who directly sent orders to the Pacha at Acca, and so the investigation was commenced. On Tuesday, the 25th, an Arab found a fresh skull under a large tree, a little aside from the Haifa-Nazareth-road, at the end of a pretty large wood, two English miles from Samunich, and about six miles from Haifa, where also considerable traces of blood could be seen, but the skull was deprived of all flesh and hair; it had two large holes in it, that could only have been caused by a sharp instrument, and also a few remnants of the woollen shirt that Mr. Gale had worn here. Wednesday, the 26th, Mr. Oldorf rode to the spot, under native protection, and found a rib considerably gnawed, the lower jaw nearly deprived of teeth, a few remnants of the woollen shirt, and the cause of Mr. Gale. On the same day an English man-of-war arrived here, sent by the Consul at Beirut, with the Secretary of the Consulate. Thursday and Friday further information and investigation were looked for on the spot where the murder was committed, by the Consulate, the officers of the ship and by the Government, but nothing more than a few bones and patches of the shirt could be found.

Seven suspicious men from a Fellahin village, which lies so near to the spot where the murder was committed that one can be easily heard from there, and in full view of the tree where Mr. Gale was murdered, have been arrested and put in prison in Acca; the further developments are still in the future, and will have to be awaited. The way in which the murder was committed is still in the dark, but that Mr. Gale was murdered there is no doubt. Of his other clothing and the revolver which he had with him no trace has yet been found. The inhabitants are considerably excited, and want is growing very large among the natives, so that murders happen often; if, therefore, the English Government does not carry this case through and strictly demand satisfaction, the result will be that all Christians will be so much more in danger, and particularly Europeans may have to lose their lives by the first opportunity. But we hope that the energetic action of the English Government will not be wanting in this matter, by which we would all derive a great benefit. The English man-of-war lying at anchor here already commands much respect from the natives.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS, CORRESPONDENTS, &c.

No notice can be taken of Anonymous Correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the Addresses of all Persons connected with the FAR EAST, and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the Office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers in reference to Commercial or general matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, and other parts of the FAR EAST will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the journals published in those Countries.

The "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" is published Weekly on the day of departure of the mails, and contains a summary of English, Continental, and American News, Commercial and Shipping Reports, &c. Subscription, £33s. per annum.

The "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH" is published Weekly on the arrival of the English and French mails. Subscription, £2 2s. per annum.

JAMES WEST, PUBLISHER,
79 GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON: MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1877.

THIS MAIL'S NEWS.

The present mail brings news that some steps have been taken by the Chinese authorities for the punishment of those concerned in the recent outrage at Wuchang. This is so far satisfactory, and it is to be hoped that in the present instance there may be an exception to the ordinary rule, and that the matter will be adjusted without the necessity of bringing pressure to bear upon the Government. The reports concerning the shortness of the crops are still most distressing. According to the correspondent of one of the Shanghai papers, the crops in the vicinity of Tientsin are bad, but they are still worse in the interior of the province, where there is said to be in many places only two-tenths of a crop, and in other places practically nothing. Persons from Shansi affirm that the condition of things in that once prosperous province is even worse. The great valley which constitutes the most fertile portion of Shansi is peculiarly dependent on irrigation from the mountains on either side, and for two years past the rain-fall has been insignificant. The suffering among the people has been very great, although comparatively unknown to foreigners in China. Poor country people, utterly without food, have already begun to flock to Tientsin from the cities on the line of the Canal, and there is only too much reason to fear that while the crops in Shantung are a great improvement on those of the last year, in Chihli the suffering will be greater than last winter. The Government is taking tardy notice of the distress—too late it is much to be feared to be of practical use, though it perhaps is satisfactory to find the Peking Government doing anything in such a case. A decree, however, in the *Peking Gazette* of the 24th August grants a request by the Viceroy of Nanking for a remission of taxation in certain districts near Nanking, "on the score of their prostrate condition, and their recent sufferings from locusts and drought," and a remission of three-tenths of the grain-tax is conceded in favour of five districts, while a decree to this effect is ordered to be publicly placarded and the proper steps taken to prevent official underlings extorting the sum thus surrendered. Some interesting letters are published from Messrs. Baber and Gill, who are pursuing their travels independently of one another in Szechuen. The deterioration of the River Hwangpu has again been the subject of notice, and the Chairman of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce has addressed a well-drawn-up despatch to the Foreign Ministers at Peking on the subject. It is to be hoped that the subject will at last be taken in hand by the Chinese Government, as there is no doubt it is one which calls for serious attention. A sad case of hydrophobia has attracted some attention in Shanghai, where for some time past the necessity of taking precautions in this matter has been recognised. The victim was one of the Municipal police, who was bitten while seizing a suspected dog. The Hong Kong Legislative Council was to meet on September 17, when it was anticipated that some matters of public interest would be brought forward for discussion. It was stated, upon apparently reliable authority, that the Governor had made some attempts to establish a Prisoners' Aid Society. Exception was taken to this having been done in a private manner.

The dates from Japan by the present mail have been anticipated *via* America.

THE INDIA AND CHINA BANKS.

The statements which were made by the Chairmen of the various India and China Banks, which took place last week, are upon the whole encouraging as respects banking with the Far East. That business in those directions has been generally of a discouraging character is unfortunately too well known to need confirmation; but the fact that an institution like the Oriental Bank should, as its Chairman stated to the meeting, receive the same account from the agents of all its numerous branches, brings the fact home in a very forcible manner. "The reports," he said, "from their agents in all parts of the world were to the same effect, that there had been little doing either in exports or imports;" and on the top of this there have been the Indian famine and the untoward state of business at home to militate against the business of the half-year. Under these circumstances the results which are set forth may be considered on the whole as highly satisfactory. The business transacted has generally been of a thoroughly sound and legitimate character, and has been productive, notwithstanding adverse influences, of dividends at the rate of from 6 to 10 per cent. per annum—a very good return for money in the present day, when sound and reliable means of investment are so much sought after. Taken altogether, the India and China Banks may be now looked upon as ranking very high as modes of investing capital. The days when operations of a speculative and dangerous character were common have passed away; and if the returns now made are not so large as formerly, the shareholders have the satisfaction of knowing that the whole nature of Banking business with the East is of a much sounder and more reliable character than was formerly the case. It is under these circumstances, perhaps, the more to be regretted that the Chairman of one of the Banks, the Mercantile, made a proposition which in the minds of most people unacquainted with the facts would lead to an opposite conclusion. He suggested that the qualification for Directors should be lowered from the present standard of a hundred shares or the equivalent of about £2,500. Such a proposition coming from the Chairman of a Bank of such high standing is little less than astounding, and the reason given for it, namely, that it was desirable to get *good* men, and it was not always possible to do so with the existing qualification, makes the matter appear only the more extraordinary. The argument would be an excellent one for raising the qualification—in fact, that which would naturally first occur to anyone advocating that measure; and we are almost disposed to think that Mr. NICOL was in the position of the learned counsel who, hurrying into court, began to argue for the defendant instead of the plaintiff, and put matters right by pointing out to the jury that what he had just said were the plausible but fallacious views which would no doubt be impressed upon them by the other side. Some of the shareholders at all events seemed to be alive to this bearing of the question, and soon drew their own conclusion from the premises advanced.

THE CHEFOO CONVENTION.

We are glad to call attention to the following correspondence between Messrs. MATHESON and Co. and other merchants in the China trade and the Foreign-office. We have already noticed the extraordinary omission in the Blue-book on the Chefoo Convention, and we regret to have now to characterise the reply of Lord TENTERDEN as very unsatisfactory. It is clear from this that no limit can be assigned to the delay in the ratification or rejection of the Convention, and we would therefore urge the merchants and others interested to form a deputation to Lord DERBY and explain their views fully upon the subject.

London, Oct. 15, 1877.

MY LORD.—As merchants interested in the trade with China we much regret to find that the long delayed papers on the late Convention with China, now they are published, strangely omit all the observations of Sir Thomas Wade on Section III. of the Convention, *viz.*, that relating to trade.

As more than a year has elapsed since this Chefoo Convention was made, and no ratification has yet taken place, we trust your Lordship will not consider us unreasonable if we say that this unusual suspense, coupled with the marked excision in the Blue-book of that portion of the report of Sir Thomas Wade most nearly affecting us, is calculated to be prejudicial to mercantile interests.

We would, therefore, respectfully urge on your Lordship no longer to withhold publication of the omitted portion of the remarks of Sir Thomas Wade, in order to afford us an opportunity before the Convention is ratified or rejected of judging the arguments which weighed with the British Minister, and are now under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government before the final decision is arrived at, as without these it is impossible fairly to consider the matter in all its bearings.

We have the honour to be, My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient servants,

(Signed by) MATHESON and Co.; T. A. GIBB and Co.; ADAMSON and Co.; BIRLEY, SMITH and Co.; ANDREW A. RANKIN and Co.; REISS BROS. and Co.; C. P. HENDERSON and Co.; ROBERT BRAND and Co.; DENT PALMER and Co.; HARVEY, BRAND and Co.; DUFOUR BROS. and Co.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, &c.

Foreign-office, Oct. 22, 1877.

GENTLEMEN.—I am directed by the Earl of Derby to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst. relative to the Chefoo Convention, and I am to inform you in reply that the observations of Sir T. Wade on Trade will hereafter be presented to Parliament, together with any other papers which there may be upon the subject, when the Convention in question has been fully considered.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

(Signed) TENTERDEN.

Messrs. Matheson and Co. (and other merchants),
3, Lombard-street, E.C.

THE *Foo-so*, ironclad for the Japanese Government, lately noticed in our columns, has been finished by Messrs. SAMUDA BROTHERS, of Poplar, and now only waits for her guns, which are expected shortly. As soon as they are on board the date for the trial and delivery of the vessel will be fixed. Two other ironclad corvettes are in course of completion for the Japanese Government, one the *Kongo*, at Earle's Shipbuilding and Engineering Works, Hull, which will be completed by the end of the present month, and will probably leave for Japan about the end of the year. The third is at the works of the Milford Haven Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, which is expected to be completed early in December. Messrs. VOSPER and Co., engineers of Portsmouth, have also been constructing some launch machinery for the Japanese Government.

IN the present number we give a *résumé* of a valuable batch of Consular reports upon the trade of China for the year 1876, which has been recently issued. The remarks which are made with reference to the introduction of railways into Formosa are of interest, but, as we stated a short time back, there is, it is to be feared, but little chance of the brilliant prospects held out being realised. It is observable that the majority of the Consuls in their reports give valuable information with respect to opium. We again notice the absence of the report from Shanghai, and are at a loss to account for its being apparently a rule always to publish it at a later date than those from the other ports.

A CORRESPONDENT in Lisbon, whose letter we publish in another column, confirms the impression very generally prevalent with respect to the dismissal of Mr. ROMANO from the Consul Generalship in Hong Kong. Although it was never stated in so many words, there could be little doubt that the comments which were made on the subject in the China papers pointed to Bishop RAIMONDI as the chief mover in the matter. We shall be very glad if it can be shown that the impression generally prevalent is erroneous; but however this may be, there is no doubt that Mr. ROMANO'S removal was due to Ecclesiastical influence in one form or another.

WE direct attention to a new Order in Council which appeared in Friday's *Gazette*, and which makes an alteration of some importance with respect to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court at Hong Kong over British subjects on Chinese territory.

A PRIVATE telegram has been received from Shanghai, dated the 23rd inst., announcing that the final instalment of the Woosung Railway has been paid by the Chinese Government, and that the line is closed.

WE understand that Sir BROOKE ROBERTSON, C.B., has been selected to succeed Sir WALTER MEDHURST at Shanghai, with the rank of Consul General.

CONSULAR REPORTS ON THE CHINA TRADE.

The Reports on Trade with China by H.M. Consuls for the year 1876 have been issued, and contain a large amount of information which will be, on the present occasion, of much more practical value than would be the case had their publication been deferred.

The series of reports under notice commences with that of Sir Brooke Robertson, of Canton. He states that there has been a marked increase in the importation of grey shirtings, white shirtings, T-cloths, and drills, especially of English make, but in none of these to the extent that might be reasonably expected. He notes, however, that the manufacturers at home have themselves to blame. They found in China an unlimited field for the sale of Manchester goods, and they have done their best to destroy it; over-sizing, loose texture, and inferior qualities have done their work, until the article has become a bye-word, and the price fallen to an extent to be unremunerative. Meanwhile, it is said the Americans are trying what an honestly-made cloth will do in the market, and there are great hopes of a successful importation from India, where cotton and weaving mills have been erected, and are turning out a very superior kind of cloth. This circumstance is one to which we have repeatedly directed the attention of the Manchester manufacturers, and we can only trust that now that the information is coming forward in so definite a shape, and from so authoritative a source, some attention will be paid to it.

An important point is noticed by Sir Brooke Robertson with reference to opium. He states that the use of the native drug is decidedly on the increase, and that it is improving in quality. This latter point ought to be taken into careful consideration, as it has been the superiority of the quality of the Indian drug over the native upon which we have hitherto had to rely. Upon this subject the remarks of Sir Brooke Robertson deserve to be given at length. He says:—

The native opium used in Canton is the produce of the Sze-ch'uan, Kweichow, and Yunnan Provinces, and in small quantities from those of Shen-si and Honan; but of the eighteen provinces of the Empire eight may be said to grow it in larger or smaller quantities. Of the opium shops in Canton 80 per cent. deal in it, the remaining 20 confining their trade to the foreign product only. I have it on good authority that the preparation of native opium has greatly improved of late, both in flavour and consistency, and it is said that the production has doubled in the last ten years. For instance, on Chinese authority, the present outturn is from 25,000 to 32,000 piculs (133½ lbs. per picul) per annum, against from 15,000 to 18,000 piculs in 1864, 1865, and 1866. Native opium is, of course, taxed *in transitu* to Canton from the place of production. It is difficult to say what the various barrier and octroi duties amount to, but on an average every picul sold in the city has paid about Tls. 40 in duties and imposts, the selling price being about \$480 per picul. It is used by the poorer classes, being cheaper than the foreign drug, and when a taste for it is acquired it is often preferred. Indian opium is often mixed with the latter to improve its strength and give it a flavour. So many exhaustive and valuable reports upon opium, foreign, and native have appeared in the Maritime Customs Reports that I do not attempt to treat the matter more cursorily. This is no place to discuss its political and social bearings, and I shall leave it to those who know, or fancy they know, all about it to do so, merely observing, as I have before observed, that the Chinese Government does not see its way to the total suppression of its use, as urged by a section of the British public, for the simple reason that it has not the power, and probably considers that, by doing so, if it had it would lead to a renewal of the organised smuggling bands and boats which bade defiance to the Provincial Government and created a very dangerous class. Everyone who knows Canton previous to the signing of the Treaty of Tientsin can recall the constant fights on the river between boats—manned with from eighty to a hundred men, and pulling as many oars, armed and ready to engage whoever interfered with them—and the Chinese Imperial cruisers. Scarcely a day passed without loss of life, and the penalty for smugglers of opium when caught being death the execution ground was in constant requisition. Such was the state of affairs in regard to opium when the Treaty of Tientsin legalised the import, and the smuggler's occupation being gone he and his boats disappeared, and if morality is alleged to have been shocked by the act, humanity has been spared by it the scenes of bloodshed which prevailed, and society the existence of a desperate and vicious class.

Speaking of the rush made at the opening of the season to secure the first of the new teas, Sir Brooke expresses his opinion that so long as the spirit of competition prevails in the race for securing and shipping the first teas of the season, so long will the qualities and purity of the article deteriorate, and the prices given leave no margin for profit. Indeed, of late years China teas have been gradually deteriorating, both in strength and flavour, owing almost entirely to a too hasty preparation and a process of adulteration, and still the cause of this, the same reckless competition, prevails year after year, but the evil has now almost reached its tether. The Indian teas are becoming not only an established fact, but are competing with those of China, and the importers of the latter will have to look to it, or it will be out of the market. After reviewing the growth of the cultivation in India, he says there can be no doubt that the part of India, the Himalaya range, where the plantations are situated, possess every advantage of soil and climate for the growth of tea, and that India is capable of producing sufficient to satisfy not only the possible demands of England but the wants of all the world besides.

Mr. Consul Pedder gives only a brief report on the trade of Foochow. As compared with the returns of the previous year, the direct trade shows a decrease in the value of imports to the extent of more than £37,000 sterling, and of exports to the extent of more than £807,000 sterling; whilst the indirect trade shows an increase in imports and exports respectively to the value of £57,000 and £16,000 sterling. The direct trade of the port, however, has not suffered to the extent shown in the return, if at all. The decrease in the value given is owing in part to the depreciation in the value of silver causing a comparatively lower sterling valuation, and in part to the fact that the export of tea had not finished so nearly as usual by the end of the year, and that many millions of pounds weight remained to be shipped off in the early part of 1877 that properly belong to the trade of the year 1876. Mr. Pedder calls attention to a point of much importance now that Indian teas are so likely to compete with those from China. He notes that during the year the foreign merchants brought to the notice of the Consuls certain negligences and malpractices on the part of the Chinese concerned in the tea trade, which, if not corrected, would seriously affect the character of Foochow teas and injure the trade of the port. The subject, he adds, was brought before the provincial authorities, and they have taken steps that are likely to bring about an improvement in the conduct of the trade, if the foreign buyers will support the action of the authorities.

Mr. P. J. Hughes, Consul at Hankow, referring to the purchase by the Chinese S.N. Company of the steamers of the S.S.N. Company, notes that the clearances under the British flag still continue greater than those of any other nation. He goes on to say that the effect of that step will be that the American flag will almost disappear from the waters of China. Mr. Hughes notices the very important fact that the employment of steamers has not diminished the number of junks.

Mr. Hughes, in noticing a falling off in the import of opium, attributes the fact to the increase in the production of native opium, which is said to be improving in quality—his opinion thus coinciding entirely with that expressed by Sir Brooke Robertson on the same subject, as noticed above. He says that certainly as much native drug finds its way from Hankow to Shanghai as Indian drug from that port to Hankow; and he goes on to say with reference to the native product:—

Meantime the production is likely to increase under the fostering care of the Chinese authorities. It is true that the growth of the poppy is nominally prohibited, but the chief, if not the only, result of this prohibition, is a slight addition to the cost of the opium, caused by the necessity of paying fees to the officials or their subordinates. Perhaps, too, something may be allowed for the narrowing of the field of poppy cultivation, owing to the occasional interference of a conscientious mandarin. On the other hand, the likin or inland revenue tax is much less than on Indian opium, and the duty which the Customs levy on the export of native opium is Tls. 15 a picul, or just half the import duty on the foreign article. Under these circumstances, even if the conditions remain as at present, it needs not the gift of prophecy to foretell the result, in the immediate future, of the competition between the native and foreign drug.

Mr. Hughes is of opinion that the importance of the position of Hankow as a trading mart will be fully continued, and that the port will not be injuriously affected by the opening of Ichang.

A very interesting report is given by Mr. Harvey, acting Vice-Consul at Kungchow on Hainan. The trade is so new that no very definite conclusions can be formed respecting it; but it appears that during its first year about 600 piculs of opium were imported, 23,000 pieces of shirtings, 21,000 pieces of T-cloth, and 7,000 pieces of drill. Foreign cottons are well suited for the clothing of the inhabitants, and an increase in importation may be looked for, but in a climate so warm the demand for woollens is likely to remain small. Sugar is the staple export, and about 120,000 piculs were exported. It is of a kind well suited for the London market, and there is good reason for supposing it will become an article of direct export to Great Britain and other foreign countries. In estimating the natural resources of the island, he says it should be borne in mind that the island has been for hundreds of years, until quite recently, in a chronic state of war within and without, savages from the interior harassing the Chinese settlements and interfering with agriculture, whilst pirates were the scourge of the coast, and often cut off trade with the mainland for months together. Finally, opium smuggling was another source of demoralisation until the traffic was regularised by the establishment of the foreign Custom-house. Piracy has been practically suppressed, and now that the eyes of foreigners are upon them the Chinese authorities, should there be any occasion for it, would probably make more than their hitherto half-hearted efforts to keep the Li in order.

Consul Adkins reports that the trade of Newchwang shows on the whole satisfactory results. Speaking of the famine, he says:—

The famine in Shantung has driven large numbers of starving people to the shores of this province. During the winter several hundreds were supported in this town by a dole from the Intendant, supplementing a charitable fund raised by wealthy Chinese merchants. Many hundreds were also provided with money to enable them to pursue their journey northwards, where they hoped to be able to find settlements in the still unopened tracts of country which abound there. They do not, however, apparently go to Northern Manchuria (Tsai Tsai Har), they stop in the most fertile districts of Feng-Teen and Kirin,

which may be reached from this port in three weeks or a month. It is quite impossible to estimate the numbers that have arrived, but the immigration has become so large that the authorities would like to put a check upon it if they could. Many of the immigrants are well dressed, and appear to be possessed of means.

Mr. W. M. Cooper, Acting Consul at Ningpo, says that the most noticeable feature in the import trade is the large increase in opium, and adds that the causes of the healthy aspect of this trade must be sought in the growing prosperity of the people, and also in the comparatively small exactions levied on the drug by the authorities of this province, Tls. 32 per picul only being the amount levied for likin. The last-named point is of much importance, both as showing the extent of the likin levies and also the importance of their effect upon the trade. In cotton piece goods there has been an increase to the extent of some 143,224 pieces.

In his report on the trade of Swatow, Mr. Acting Consul Forrest notes a considerable increase in the trade, and states that in consequence of the incidence of a light likin Swatow has hitherto been the port of supply for opium of a large part of the two adjacent provinces of Fokien and Kiangse, but the large import will continue only so long as the moderation of the tax enables the traders to supply drug at a cheaper rate than their rivals at Amoy or Foochow. He goes on to say that foreign residents have practically nothing to do with the import trade of Swatow. The impossibility of obtaining redress against creditors or defaulters, the universal system of long credits under which trade is conducted, and other local reasons, have caused them to relinquish it. The native traders are for the most part simply transit agents, who for a small consideration pass through the customs, and forward to their destination in the interior, goods and opium bought by their native correspondents in Hong Kong. Of the wealthier hongs, several are under the influence of, or owned by, the higher officials of the circuit, especially the brigadier-general. As junks coming from Hong Kong, where those hongs have agencies, only pay duties at the Chinese-managed customs, and most probably very little there, foreigners cannot compete with goods brought by them. The Swatow Guild, too, exercises a baleful influence on the expansion of trade, and on the share taken in it by foreigners. This institution can simply ruin any one offending against its policy or members, for by its fiat any foreign firm can be 'put into Coventry,' and not a native trader of any sort will go near the interdicted merchants until they have made their peace by copious presents and submission. Perhaps the improved Mixed Courts contemplated in the Chefoo Convention will prove a remedy against this growing and monstrous evil.

Mr. Consul Mongan's report on Tientsin shows that the trade of 1876 compares very favourably with that of 1865, its total value by sea and overland having reached the high figure of Tls. 25,611,437, equal, at 6s. per tael, to £7,683,431 2s., against Tls. 23,347,227, or £7,004,168 2s. in the preceding year; and similarly the gross value of the cargoes imported, and re-exported in 1876, and the net value of the imports and exports, were Tls. 22,329,778 and Tls. 18,741,493, against Tls. 20,324,180, and Tls. 17,058,711 respectively in 1875. Regarding opium, he says that the trade in Indian opium was not so much crippled last year by the competition of native opium as by the heavy likin tax which is now levied at Tientsin, viz., Tls. 33 per chest, whilst at Chinkiang, the other chief port of supply for the inland markets of North China, this arbitrary exaction is much lighter, he believes only Tls. 18 per chest. For the last three years the imports of shirtings and T-cloths has been steadily falling off. Regarding the opening of the Kaiping mines, Mr. Mongan reports that there are indications of an intention on the part of the Governor-General to work with foreign appliances the coal mines in the Kaiping district to the north-east of Tientsin between the Pehtang and Lanho rivers. In October, 1876, his Excellency sent an English mining engineer with an interpreter to visit and report upon the producing capability of a coal basin which had formerly been worked there. Its area was found to be about seventy-eight square miles and the engineer was told on the spot by workmen formerly employed in the mines that the coal seam was seven feet thick, which would give a total of about 60,000,000 tons of coal underlying the valley.

Mr. Acting Consul Playfair reports very hopefully of the trade of North Formosa. There has been continued increase both in exports and imports, the foreign trade of last year having been greater than that of 1875 by Tls. 571,792, and having exceeded that of 1874 by Tls. 886,809. In 1869 the value of the imports and exports amounted to £223,545, and the returns show that the trade of the port has more than trebled itself in value since that year. Speaking of the future prospects of the Island, he says:—

Ting-Jih-ch'ang has shown himself to be a remarkable man, and, above all, a remarkable Chinaman, in many ways. The consistent crusade which, since his appointment to the governorship, he has waged against official corruption of every kind, has few parallels in the history of his country. In a memorial to the Throne, written some three or four years ago, he earnestly advocated the adoption of Western improvements to develop the country. Formosa would seem to have been chosen as a *corpus vile* on which to experiment in order to determine how far the Chinese lower orders are now prepared to submit to the introduction of the railway, the telegraph, and other innova-

tions. The Governor is now on a visit to the island, and appreciating to how insignificant an extent its resources have as yet been worked, has apparently set his mind on doing his best to let Formosa lie no longer neglected. The fact that the name of the Viceroy of Chih-li is associated with that of Ting in the suggestion of some of the proposed improvements is evidence that the scheme is an Imperial, and not merely a provincial undertaking. In the North the coal mines of Kelung are being worked by European machinery, and with the aid of European skill. New roads to open up the country are being constructed, but the most advanced project of all is perhaps the proposal to connect North and South Formosa by a railway, in the working of which advantage will be taken of the late purchase by the Chinese Government of the Wusung line and plant. This project is as yet in its infancy, and it is hard to prophecy whether the idea will ever be realised, for owing to the peculiar character of the country (viz. a plain intersected by watercourses at times some miles in width, which during the rains become the beds of torrents fed from the inmountains), the engineering difficulties will not be few, and the expense cannot fail to be considerable. Being a Government undertaking it will not, however, be open to the same objections on the score of Fēng-shui and kindred superstitions which the inhabitants would have opposed to an European project. In addition to a possible railway, Governor Ting has the intention of joining Foochow and North Formosa by a submarine telegraph cable, the wire to be continued overland to the south of the island, presumably along the line of rail, though it is probable that the telegraph will make its appearance before the railroad."

Correspondence.

THE SUPPRESSION OF THE OPIUM TRADE.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—Your correspondent "Chink in the Wall" must be rather a narrow chink. Could he not try to widen his view a little? The area of the opium question includes a good deal which he cannot or will not see. We of the Anti-Opium Society object to the use of opium except as medicine, and therefore to the production of opium except for medicine. If the trade were in private hands we should oppose it; but we have an additional objection to the trade being carried on by the Indian Government. Over and above this we are opposed to the course pursued by Great Britain in China in connection with this drug. I say we force opium into China. A small but indignant chorus of voices exclaims "No, no!" But we did in 1858 compel the Chinese to legalise the traffic. In 1869 they besought, and besought in vain, to have this obligation removed. If anyone chooses to assert that in 1877 their minds have changed let him bring proof. Kuo Tajen's memorial shows that their hostility to opium is as lively as ever. "Chink" exclaims against their taxing opium if they regard it as a poison. But let him remember who compelled them to tax it. Being so compelled it is not surprising if they should wish to tax it somewhat proportionately to the amount levied by the Indian Government. Let him tackle this dilemma. Either opium is frightfully injurious to China, or it is not. If it is, Great Britain ought not to compel China to admit it. If it is not, China may as lawfully raise revenue therefrom as ourselves. Sause for the goose is sauce for the gander.

We have no wish to see China depending upon opium for revenue as India does, and as we do here upon gin and beer. Far from it. But, looking at the case as it is, as we have very largely helped to make it, what is the Chinese Government to do? Since 1839 there has been progress even in China, and nobody proposes to revert to the barbarous methods, decapitation and strangling, by which Commissioner Lin strove to put down opium smoking. In any plan the Chinese Government may devise a gradually-increasing duty on opium will probably form a part. We do not want to help China to increased revenue; but we protest against the injustice of preventing China from getting the revenue if she wishes. We contend that China ought to be left perfectly free, to admit, to exclude, or to tax, opium at her own discretion. Instead of that we now confine China to a paltry £10 per chest, while India gets £60 in Bombay and £90 in Calcutta. Is that fair? We allow China to put an import duty of only 7 per cent. on opium, while we put 40 or 50 per cent. on tea. Is that fair? We are for justice to China, and for doing to others as we would be done by.—I am, &c.,

F. S. TURNER, Secretary to the
Anti-Opium Society.

London, Oct. 23.

THE AUSTRALIAN MAILS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—It is quite true that the soft impeachment of a "pet hobby" has to be charged against me; but I ride it with Shandean simplicity! Were I open to the good humoured attack you have directed against all that appeared in the *Daily News*, I should not attempt to defend the City Editor, but confine myself to the facts or statements supplied when drawing attention to the needless delay in Australian Mails. I repeat that the *Ceylon* was elephanlike in slowness,—the letters were detained six days at Suez, and we, the men of Australian commerce or finance, were like the prisoners of old, tied to the chariot wheels of the victors.—I am, &c.,

WILLIAM PURDY.

London, October 23.

SINGAPORE GAS COMPANY.

An extraordinary general meeting of the above-named company was held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Tuesday, the 23rd inst.; Mr. H. P. Stephenson in the chair.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman stated that the directors regretted that they had not so favourable an account to present as for the previous half-year. The deficiency arose from several causes, one more particularly being the low rate of exchange they obtained for the last remittance, only 3s. 11½d. per dollar instead of the usual 4s. 6d., which was of course a very heavy pull on the profits. Another cause of the diminished profits arose from the fact of a large fire at the Tanjong Paga Wharf at Singapore, at which 24,000 tons of coal were wholly or partially consumed, the result being that the insurers or other parties concerned determined to sell off the considerable quantity of cinders, coke, &c., by which purchasers laid in a very large stock, the average price realised being only about 4s. 6d. per ton; consequently the demand for the company's coke sensibly diminished; but that would right itself when the stocks were worked off. Another point was the increase in the amount of the general charges, which had arisen from two or three circumstances. In the first place, a fatal accident happened to one of their foremen to the machinery, but through no fault of that gentleman, and they had had to bear the expenses of the funeral and to make some provision for the widow. A further cause was the great drought and dry weather at Singapore, where the rainpour had been insufficient to fill their ponds, so that they had had to cart the water necessary for the carrying on of the works from a great distance at a considerable expense. Notwithstanding these unfavourable circumstances, however, the board were in the position of offering the shareholders the usual dividend at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum, after wiping off the usual 1 per cent. for the depreciation of works and plant, and the expense of first establishment, after which a small balance, though in excess of that brought forward, would remain to be carried forward. The shareholders would be pleased to hear that since the close of the half-year they had paid off £3,000 of the debenture bonds, so that in the next balance-sheet the amount under that head would stand at only £900, and he had little doubt but that as they became due they would be enabled to pay them off.

It was then proposed by the Chairman, seconded by R. Rice, and carried unanimously,—"That a dividend be declared to the ordinary and preference shareholders at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum less income-tax in both cases on amounts paid up on their shares from the respective dates of payment to June 30, 1877, such dividends to become payable on November 20 next."

It was proposed by Captain G. H. Reinecker, seconded by R. Wilkins, and carried unanimously.—"That the thanks of the meeting be given to the directors and local committee at Singapore for their attention to the business of the company."

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Captain G. H. Reinecker, and carried unanimously,—"That Mr. Wells, the manager and engineer at Singapore be accorded the best thanks of the shareholders for his careful management and zeal and energy evinced by him in the business of the company."

It was proposed by R. Wilkins, seconded by Captain G. H. Reinecker, and carried unanimously,—"That Mr. King, the company's engineer and secretary, receive the best thanks of the shareholders for his attention to the duties of his office."

This concluded the proceedings and the meeting then separated.

JAPANESE NATIONAL BANKING.

We subjoin a *résumé* of a Statement on Banking, and the state of the currency in Japan, by Mr. Alexander Shand, late Secretary and Controller of Currency in the Finance Ministry of that country, which appeared in the *Economist* of the 13th inst. Mr. Shand commences by setting forth the main provisions of the Japanese Banking Act of August, 1876, which, he says,

Closely follows the United States Banking Act of 1864. In one respect it differs from that Act, namely, that no limit to the quantity of paper money that may be issued by virtue of it is given. As it now exists, it is similar to another Banking Act which came into force in Japan in 1873, with one important modification. Under the Act of 1873 payment of the notes was required to be made in gold coin, while under the present Act it is permitted to pay them in convertible paper. Under the former Act expansion of the currency by issues of paper money was controlled by the safeguard of convertibility into coin. In point of fact the banks established under it soon discovered that their power of issue was worthless, for merchants and others picked out and retained from the mass of paper money passing through their hands the notes issued by banks, and when gold was at a premium as compared with Government convertible paper—which it is usually, but not always—they presented these notes for payment. This effectively prevented inflation of the currency, as well as a sudden multiplication of banks. From the passing of the first Act down to the present year four banks only had established themselves, viz.:—

	Capital.—
The First National Bank	... ... ... 1,500,000
" Second	... ... ... 200,000
" Third	never established
" Fourth	... ... ... 250,000
" Fifth	... ... ... 500,000

Total capital of the four banks 2,450,000 yen, giving a power of issue amounting to 1,960,000 yen (£392,000).

Up to January, 1877, no banks had been established by virtue of the new Act; but they have been multiplying rapidly since, for a letter lately received from an ex-official of the Treasury Department, dated Yokohama, July 3, 1877, he states that there were in existence at that date twenty banks, having a total capital, wholly or partially paid up, of 22,276,100 yen (£4,455,220), and a consequent power of

issue, according to the Act, of 17,820,880 yen (£3,564,176). Of these banks

		Yen.
1 has a capital of	...	50,000
8 have a capital of	...	yen 100,000
2	"	150,000
2	"	200,000
2	"	250,000
3	"	300,000
1 has	"	...
1	"	1,500,000
		17,826,100
		22,276,100

And it is probable that the number continues to increase. It will be seen that one only of these banks has a large capital. This bank, called the Fifteenth National Bank, has been formed exclusively by nobles, under circumstances to be presently explained.

There is no preamble, or other prefatory matter, to the new Act, but in his conversations with the three officials of the Japanese Government, who are primarily responsible for it—namely, the Minister of Finance, the Vice-Minister of Finance, and the Comptroller of the Currency—three main reasons for its introduction were given, and he sets these out briefly as follows:—

(1.) That there is not enough money in the country generally; more especially in the country districts, where the want of it is so great that the farmers have much difficulty in paying their taxes.

(2.) That the rate of interest in the country districts is very high—sometimes as much as 40 or 50 per cent. per annum.

(3.) That it is necessary, having regard to the capitalisation of the pensions of the Daimiyos and their retainers, by the issue to them of Government bonds, to create a demand for these bonds with the view of supporting the price of them.

As to the want of money *generally*, he considers there is so much of truth in this very common complaint as regards Japan at the present moment, that if it cannot positively be affirmed that there is not enough money in the country, it certainly can be showing that the position of the metallic currency as regards foreign trade is such that no easy, rapid, and natural expansion of its volume can occur, even when circumstances are of such a nature as to require that it should occur. But there are obvious causes why, as they put it, there is a general want of money; or, as we should put it, there is a general commercial distress. First,—the sudden abolition of feudalism. When the existing Government abolished feudalism, and took possession of the Daimiyos' fiefs, they also undertook to settle with their creditors, and the way in which they settled was this:—

(1.) All debts contracted prior to 1842 were repudiated.

(2.) All debts contracted between 1842 and 1868 were paid in full by bonds not bearing interest, redeemable in fifty years at 2 per cent. per annum. The present value of such bonds is about 18 yen for 100 yen.

(3.) All debts contracted subsequently to 1868 were paid in full by bonds redeemable within twenty-five years, and bearing interest at 4 per cent. per annum. The present value of such bonds is about 55 yen per 100 yen.

In this way the bankers referred to, and others, lost a large part of their loanable capital. The sum total of bonds issued of both kinds was about 25,000,000 yen (£5,000,000). The actual result has been that in Osaka the wealthy merchant bankers no longer exist, and in Yedo one only has survived. They have not in all cases been actually ruined, but where this has not happened they have preferred to retire and hoard what remains of their wealth.

The difficulty which farmers experience in getting money to pay their taxes is chiefly due to an ill-considered step taken by the Government two years ago. Until then the farmers had paid the land tax in kind to the governors of the provinces, who accounted for it to the central Government. But two years ago the Government suddenly ordered that the tax should be paid in money. Most of the tax is paid from rice land. The rice is harvested in November, and the tax is payable in December. Under these circumstances, an immense quantity of rice is suddenly thrust upon the market; prices go down; accommodation becomes costly. The tax, amounting to £7,000,000 or £8,000,000, used to be paid without the intervention of money, and now, suddenly, money is required for its payment.

What has already been said sufficiently explains the cause of the rate of interest being so high. It is nothing new, however, for the rate of interest to be high in Japan; it always has been high. The rate in Osaka for loans was frequently 24 to 30 per cent. per annum, when commerce was considered to be flourishing.

Secondly, in 1869, the Japanese Government adopted the gold standard. The unit is the gold yen. The subsidiary coinage is silver and copper. Silver, as with us, is legal tender to a limited extent only, so also with copper. The coins are all excellent, and have been more than once favourably reported upon by the Deputy-master of the English Mint, in his annual statements. The Mint is admirably furnished, and is well organised and managed. A silver coin, called one yen, is struck at the Mint of the same weight and fineness as the Mexican Dollar, which latter coin forms the currency at the treaty ports of Japan, as is afterwards explained—at Hong Kong, Canton, Foochow, Singapore, Penang, &c. The silver yen is a much better coin than the Mexican dollar in point of execution and regularity. It has been declared legal tender at Canton and Foochow by the Viceroy of these places, and at Singapore and Penang by the Governor of the Straits Settlements; so that, at these places, it circulates side by side with the Mexican dollar. In Japan itself it is merely like the other silver coins, used as subsidiary money—it is not legal tender.

Before the National Banking Act came into operation, all the paper money circulating in Japan was issued either by the Government or by the Daimiyos. It is all convertible. According to the last Budget, the sum total is 100,000,000 yen, equal to £20,000,000, but it is not accurately known what the total is. Out of the whole sum, the present Government issued in 1869-70 about 50,000,000 yen. This was to pay

the expenses of the war which resulted in the restoration of the Emperor. Over and above this there was a considerable mass of paper money issued by the Daimiyos for local circulation. This is now being exchanged by the Government for Imperial paper money, and until the operation has been completed it will not be known what the grand total is, for some of the Daimiyos had no records at all, and others gave in records which have proved incorrect.

In transactions between Japanese and foreigners, and between one foreigner and another at the treaty ports, Japanese currency is not used. When a foreigner buys produce from a Japanese he pays him in Mexican dollars; when a Japanese buys goods from a foreigner he likewise pays for them in Mexican dollars. This coin has no circulating power beyond these treaty ports—it is of no use to Japanese for transactions among themselves. Hence all Japanese merchants who may hold Mexican dollars must seek for other merchants, who, wishing to buy foreign goods, desire to exchange native money for dollars. But it is evident that the sellers of Mexican dollars, and the seekers of Mexican dollars, will not always wish to buy and sell the same quantity. Sometimes more dollars are offered than are wanted; sometimes more dollars are wanted than are offered. It is at this point that the defects in the position of the Japanese metallic currency become apparent; for it is evident that in cases where the payments to be made by foreigners are greater than the payments to be made to foreigners, the surplus must remain suspended at the treaty port—a local congestion of greater or less severity must occur. This would not occur if foreigners used Japanese metallic money, for in that case the surplus would simply be added to the ordinary currency of the country, and would freely pass away from the treaty port into circulation. All kinds of Japanese currency—paper yen, gold yen, silver yen—were in demand, and the price of Mexican dollars measured in silver yen—a coin of the same weight and fineness fell to 107 Mexican dollars for 100 silver yen. At this price it would have been most profitable to Mint them, if they had been legal tender, but they are not legal tender, and Mr. Shand could not find that more than \$150,000, equal to £30,000, had been sent to the Mint, and thus added to the Japanese metallic currency.

In conclusion, Mr. Shand expresses his opinion that it is quite evident that the first step towards placing the currency of Japan upon a sound footing is to introduce the Japanese coins as legal tender at the treaty ports. Under such a rational and proper system the Government would have no plea upon which to justify further issues of inconvertible paper. It is true that a large number of foreigners are averse to such a change; some because they believe (quite erroneously) that the treaties provide for the use of the Mexican dollar; others because they fear the Japanese Government may not be careful to maintain the purity of their coins. In as far as the treaties touch upon the question, they contemplate the use of Japanese coins in payments by foreigners to Japanese. The objection that the Japanese Government may possibly at some future date fail to keep its coins up to the mark, although not perhaps unreasonable, cannot be allowed to have such weight as to require the Japanese Government to adhere to a system which entails severe annual loss upon the country, and which leads them to commit serious financial errors like this National Banking Act. It cannot for a moment be supposed that this Act will ameliorate the condition of the currency. On the contrary, it must inevitably add new evils to those which already exist.

Monetary and Commercial.

The Hong Kong Bank has announced the numbers of the bonds of the China Loan drawn for payment on 19th February amounting to £19,400. The particulars will be found in another column.

The Straits Sugar Company, Limited, has been formed, with a capital of £30,000, to cleanse and purify sugar on the Weinrich process, the patent for which has been purchased by the directors. A portion of the shares has been reserved for residents in the Straits, but the most of the capital has been already subscribed in London, where the head office will be established, the local branch being at Penang. The directors include J. C. Ker, merchant; J. B. Macfarlane, engineer; Joseph M. Purvis, merchant; James Beattie, Walter Oldham, of Oldham; and Mackie and Co., Penang. There is an excellent field for the operations, and a profitable result may be anticipated.

The Manila Yengarie Company, Limited, was established under the auspices of the Yengarie Sugar Company, Limited, which became the owners of valuable patents granted to Robert Tooth, Esq., after their merits had been tested and demonstrated during a period of four years in Yengarie, Queensland. The Directors having a personal knowledge of the advantages, as well as peculiar facilities to be obtained thereby, fixed upon the Philippine Islands as a good field for the enterprise of the Company, and there are now in the course of erection two works, each having the capacity of converting 100,000 gallons of juice per day; and taking 120 days as the limit of the sugar season, there would be a total production (by the old process) of 5,352 tons of sugar, but by this Company's process the yield will be 8,028 tons, based upon an average density of 10 ceumé. The capital of the Company is £250,000, fully subscribed.

We understand that the capital of the Hong Kong Sugar Refiners Company has been fully subscribed, and that Mr. McGregor Smith, the manager, proceeds to Hong Kong by the second mail of November.

Mr. William Bramsen has published two very useful tables, giving the various Japanese weights and measures, with their equivalents in English and French weights and measures respec-

tively. It will be of much practical use to merchants and others engaged in the Japan trade.

In the Bankruptcy Court, before Mr. Registrar Brougham, an adjourned first meeting for the proof of debts and choice of trustee has been held under the bankruptcy of Henry Drakeford, silk dealer, of Great Winchester-street-buildings, who was adjudicated on September 14 last. The statement of affairs produced shows total debts £4,079 3s. 2d., and assets £212 10s. Debts to the amount of £3,744 were tendered and admitted, and resolutions were passed appointing Mr. W. O. Attree trustee of the estate, with a committee of inspection.

The Tea market has become even more depressed than we have had to advise for some time past for common kinds. Good Lylings first crop, ex *Gordon Castle*, were disposed of in sale this week at 8d. to 9d. per lb. This class of tea is far preferable to the Shan-tan district, which will show clearly the extraordinarily low point to which common teas have reached. Despite this we hear of shipments from Shanghai being made at many pence per lb. over these prices, a state of matters which seems quite unaccountable with the telegraph in constant work, and the buyers in China no doubt aware of the state of matters on this side. On the other hand, fine and finest teas are beginning to command increased attention, and dealers are already securing them quietly, evidently feeling assured that the time is favourable for purchases, seeing that we cannot possibly receive further supplies till next season. The facts above detailed go to confirm the opinion that much of the present bad business is due to the general inferiority of the teas (Indian not excluded), as where quality is found prices which compare favourably with those of many years past are readily obtainable.

The Silk sales have passed off without materially affecting the market, which remains much as reported by last mail. The tone is perhaps a shade easier, but holders continue firm. There has been some more demand for common Japans at 18s. to 18s. 6d. The unsettled state of matters in France, consequent upon the elections, has tended to keep back the market; but deliveries are on the increase.

In the Produce Markets no alteration from the quiet tone lately prevailing has occurred. There has been an entire absence of speculative inquiry, and as a feeling of caution is universally prevalent the general tendency is towards lower values. Coffee notwithstanding the favourable result of the Dutch sale, is inactive and declining. Sugar is also dull and lower. Floating cargoes of Rice have been purchased at reduced quotations. Tin has slightly advanced, Straits being quoted £68 10s. to £69, Banca £71 per ton. Other articles are without alteration.

The directors of the Colonial Trusts Corporation (Limited) have declared the usual interim dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending June 30 last.

Bar silver, owing to the small supplies, has gradually improved in value, and 55½d. per oz. is the nearest quotation. No Mexican dollars have been sold.

DOCUMENTARY AND PRIVATE BILLS.

		60 days sight.
Colombo	...	1s. 9d.
Singapore	...	3s. 9½d. to 3s. 9d.
Hong Kong	...	3s. 9½d. to 3s. 9d.
Shanghai	...	5s. 2½d. to 5s. 2½d.

BULLION QUOTATIONS.

Bar Gold	...	77s. 9d.	—	per oz.
United States Gold Coin	...	76s. 5d.	to 76s. 6½d.	per oz.
German Gold Coin	...	76s. 3d.	—	per oz.
Bar Silver, Fine	...	4s. 7½d.	—	per oz.
Bar Silver contg. 5 grs. Gold	...	4s. 7½d.	—	do.
Mexican Dollars	...	4s. 5½d.	—	per oz.

EXPORT OF SILVER TO CHINA AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Year.	China.	Straits.
1874	£1,658,855	£1,494,851
1875	723,894	870,120
1876	1,273,757	758,461
1877 to date	1,599,797	1,242,593
1877 to date	£20,000	—

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.

Messrs. Arthur Capel and Co.'s Circular says:—Our market is still in an unsatisfactory state, the arrivals continue on a large scale, and the quantity of samples daily offered is very large, whilst the public sales without reserve have also been larger this week. The more desirable parcels attract attention, and are saleable at fairly good prices, but for a large proportion of the teas offered it is not possible to get fair bids. Prices of fair black-leaf kinds at auction have gone lower, but generally prices remain much as before. Congous.—Red-leaf kinds: Siftings have been saleable at the decline last quoted; common to good common show no alteration; fair kinds, except those with point, have been difficult of sale; medium kinds show no change, the demand being limited. Good to fine Kaisows have been steady; finest only in moderate request. Pak Lin kinds are without alteration. Black-leaf kinds: Siftings remain as last week; common to good common show little change, the demand being good up to 8d. per lb.; fair kinds sold at 9d. to 9½d. per lb. at auction show a lower price; fair to good medium kinds are only in limited request; good

to fine are firmly held, but there is not much doing in them; finest are without alteration. New-make kinds: Common have sold for export from 7½d. to 8d. per lb.; fair kinds are steady, good qualities being wanted. Oolongs: Fair to good Amoy kinds have been difficult of sale at rather lower prices. Fine to finest Formosa kinds have been saleable. Souchongs: Common remain without improvement; good qualities show no alteration in price. Scented Teas.—Canton Capers: A fair business has been done in common kinds at from 9d. to 9½d. per lb.; fair to good kinds show no change. Orange Pekoes: The short-leaf kinds at auction sold rather lower; the long leaf kinds are difficult of sale. Foochow Capers remain as before. Fair to good Orange Pekoes are rather lower; fine show no change. Green Teas.—The improvement in prices last quoted has been fairly maintained, the demand chiefly running on good Young Hysons and Gunpowders. The public sales have comprised 17,465 packages, the whole of which have been sold without reserve. The deliveries for the week, as compared with last year, are as follows, viz.:

	1877.	1876.
Home Consumption	... ... 2,336,751	... 2,258,207
Coastwise	... ... 825,339	... 765,137
Exports	... ... 729,037	... 604,717
		3,891,127 3,628,061

Messrs. Layton and Co. report as follows on the Tea sales Thursday:—7,500 packages offered, without reserve, on the day of sale sold as under:—294 chests Congou at 6d. to 9½d.; 3,144 half-chests ditto, 6½d. to 1s. 2d.; 1,067 boxes ditto, 9½d. to 1s. 4d.; 199 half-chests Souchong, 11½d. to 1s.; 286 boxes Scented Caper, 11½d. to 1s. 2d.; 724 boxes Scented Orange Pekoe, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.; 78 half-chests and cases Gunpowder, 7d. to 2s. 8½d.; 107 half-chests imperial, 8½d. to 1s. 9½d.; 417 half-chests and cases Young Hyson, 8½d. to 1s. 8d.; 126 half-chests Hyson, 6½d. to 1s. 4d.; 829 boxes Ping Suey Gunpowder, 9d. to 1s. 11d.; 197 boxes Ping Suey Young Hyson, 8½d. to 1s. 2d.; 32 half-chests Young Hyson, 6½d. per lb. The favourable export figures from China have not benefited the market at present, and the dull weather which set in this morning had a depressing effect on this unprotected auction.

SILK.

Messrs. Durant and Co.'s Circular says:—The periodical public sales commenced on Wednesday, the 24th inst., and were concluded on the 25th. The quantity offered was smaller than usual,—say 1,700 bales China, 900 bales Japan, 750 bales Canton, with only 90 bales Bengal and Bokhara Silk; of this total quantity about one-third was printed to be sold "without reserve," as also was about 40,000 lbs. English Thrown Silk. The result was much as might have been anticipated, extreme prices were hardly maintained for China and Japan Silk, but in Canton Silk there was no weakness, and about 150 bales which were damaged induced active competition, and realised full prices. The general market has been quiet, but deliveries continue to show improved figures, and arrivals continue small, so that, as a whole, prices are fairly firm, at a trifle under the highest moment.

The deliveries from 1st to 24th inst. inclusive have been:—China, 1,991 bales; Canton, 523; Japan, 347; Bengal, 50; total 2,911 bales.

LONDON QUOTATIONS.

CHINA.							
Tsatilee, No. 1	...	...	...	...	...	22s. 0d. to 22s. 6d.	
" No. 2	...	...	...	...	...	21s. 6d. to 22s. 0d.	
" No. 3	...	...	...	...	...	21s. 0d. to 21s. 6d.	
" Blue Elephant	...	...	...	...	...	19s. 6d. to 20s. 6d.	
Yuenfa and Hainan, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	...	...	...	...	17s. 6d. to 20s. 0d.	
Taysam Keying, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	...	...	...	...	17s. 0d. to 21s. 0d.	
Long Keel	...	...	...	...	...	11s. 0d. to 14s. 0d.	
Canton	...	...	...	...	...	11s. 6d. to 17s. 0d.	
Chinese Thrown	...	...	...	...	...	15s. 0d. to 18s. 0d.	
JAPAN.							
Malibah and Sinchu, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	...	...	...	...	18s. 0d. to 23s. 0d.	
Idah, (None)	...	...	...	...	...	18s. 0d. to 18s. 6d.	
Sodai, No. 2	...	...	...	...	...	17s. 6d. to 20s. 0d.	
Oshu, Nos. 1, 2, and 3	...	...	...	...	...	14s. 6d. to 16s. 6d.	
Amatsuki	...	...	...	...	...	20s. 0d. to 21s. 6d.	
Kakidaki	...	...	...	...	...	14s. 0d. to 16s. 0d.	
Hatcho-gees	...	...	...	...	...	15s. 0d. to 16s. 0d.	
Mashitah	...	...	...	...	...	14s. 0d. to 16s. 0d.	
Acchezan	...	...	...	...	...	14s. 0d. to 16s. 0d.	

COFFEE.—The Dutch Trading Company's public sale of 100,594 bags Java, held on the 24th inst. in Rotterdam, went off with good spirit, although prices were irregular, good ordinary Java selling ½ to 1 cent. above valuations, at 52c. to 52½c., against 53 cents in September, and 53½ cents in August. Although the result of this sale is considered more favourable than expected, this market closes without improvement. The moderate quantities of Plantation Ceylon offered have gone off flatly throughout, prices gradually declining, and closing 1s. 6d. to 2s. lower. Native has also been in less request, but prices are unchanged. In other descriptions sales have been small, and prices are generally 1s. to 2s. cheaper. Closing prices are: Plantation, triage 7s. to 9s., ordinary to fine small 90s. to 99s., low middling 100s. to 103s. 6d., middling 104s. to 107s., good middling to fine middling 108s. to 112s. 6d., dull to fine colour bold 114s. to 124s., pea-berry 109s. to 116s.; Native, small 77s. to 80s. 6d., good ordinary to fine ordinary 86s. 6d. to 87s. 6d., bold 90s. 6d. to 95s. 6d., pea-berry 92s. to 93s. 6d. The only sale of other East India has been 33 bags Java at 85s. per cwt.

COTTON.—The market remained in a dull state until towards the close, and only limited sales have been effected at a decline of 1-16d. per lb. in all positions. During the last few days, however, the demand has improved, and business shows a slight increase, prices of East India and American on the spot being rather dearer, but American future deliveries are again easier. The sales for the fortnight are about 16,000 bales. On the spot Tinnivelly 5 13-16d. to 6 1-16d., middling to good; Western Madras 4 15-16d. to 5 1d., middling fair to good fair; Cocomada 5 1d. to 5 1d., good fair; Bengal 4 1d. to 5 1d., fair to good; Rangoon 4 1d. to 5 1d., good fair.

CHINA PRESERVES.—Large supplies at public sale, comprising 1,617 cases Ginger, met a fair demand, and about one-half was disposed of at steady rates: Sansing brand (in large jars) 5d. to 5½d., a few lots 5½d., Mansing 5d. to 5½d., a few lots in small jars 7d., fresh Chyloong 7½d. to 7½d.; 30 casks bought in at 5½d. 86 cases Cumquats chiefly sold at 6d.; 220 cases Chow Chow (Mansing) sold at 4½d. per lb.

CHINA STRAW PLAIT.—At auction 432 bales met a moderate demand, and only about 100 bales found buyers at unchanged rates; White, common £8 10s. to £10 5s., medium to good medium £10 5s. to £14 10s., good qualities £15 to £17 10s., with one lot cord edge at £18 15s., Mottled £8 10s. to £10 5s., Black and white (double) £18 15s. to £18 per bale.

COCOANUT OIL has attracted little attention. Cochin is quoted £43 10s., Ceylon in pipes £38 15s. to £39, and in puncheons £39 5s. to £39 10s.

CHINA GRASS.—An offer of 44 bales was bought in at £56.

ESSENTIAL OILS.—Small sales of Aniseed at 6s. 3d.; Cassia dull of sale at 3s. 2d. to 3s. 3d.

GAMBOGE.—32 cases slightly country-damaged sold readily at full rates, at £11 10s. to £12 2s. 6d., chiefly the latter.

GALLS.—156 cases China bought in at 5d. per cwt.

HEMP.—At the periodical public sales a rather large supply of Manila was offered, which went off flatly, and little more than one third sold, at a decline of 10s. to 20s. per ton. Of 3,178 bales offered, about 1,100 bales sold at and after the sale, brown and mixed at £24 5s. to £24 15s., fair to fully fair current £25 to £25 10s., good £26, the remainder being bought in or withdrawn.

JAPAN WAX.—120 cases bought in at 50s. to 53s.

MYRABOLANS.—184 bags Ceylon smooth kind sold at 13s. to 13s. 3d.

ORCHELLA.—31 bags Ceylon sold at 48s. to 48s. 6d.

PEPPER.—*Black*: The market remains dull, and with little demand a total of 2,482 bags at auction was almost entirely bought in; 2,393 bags Penang were bought in at 3½d. to 3½d., except 300 bags damaged, which sold at 3½d., 33 bags Batavia bought in at 3½d. Privately, 200 bags Penang have been sold at 3 5-16d. *White*: At public sale 997 bags Singapore were offered, and 710 bags sold at irregular prices, old import being cheaper, fair barely sustained, and fine bold dearer; import 1874 (274 bags) sold without reserve at 5½d., one lot 6d., fair of recent import 6d. to 6½d., chiefly the former price, good fair 6½d., fine 6½d. to 6½d., fine bold 7½d. to 7½d. per lb.

PLUMBAGO.—At public sale of 433 barrels Ceylon offered about 170 barrels found buyers at steady rates for lump and chips, dust being dearer, middling to fine bright lump at 14s. to 15s., chiefly fair to good bright chips at 11s. 3d. to 11s. 9d., dust 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d., low 7s. per cwt.

RICE.—A flat tone has prevailed, and prices for floating cargoes are lower, Bassein having been sold at 10s. 6d., or 9d. below sales effected a week ago. Five floating cargoes have been sold as follows:—The C. Boschetto, 969 tons Rangoon, off coast, at 10s. 6½d. for Continent; the R. B. Fuller, 1,250 tons Necrancie, off coast, at 10s. for Continent; the Nicolo Barabino, 916 tons Necrancie, June sailing, at 10s. 3d. open charter; the Toronto, 1,144 tons Bassein, off coast, at 10s. 9d. open charter; and the Beech Holm, 1,175 tons Bassein, off coast, at 10s. 6d. Continent.

RATTANS.—At auction about 130 tons met a limited demand, and barely 60 tons Singapore sold, the bulk on account of whom it may concern, at £22 to £29 5s., damaged from £9 5s. to £27 15s.

SUGAR.—The market has exhibited a decidedly dull tone, there being little demand for any description, and at the public sales crystallised Demerara has sold at a decline of 6d. per cwt.; refining kinds only partly sold at an occasional decline of 6d.; common brown kinds have been quieter, but without change in value. The business in East Indian descriptions has been as follows:—On the 19th inst., in auction, 3,063 bags Native Penang were bought in, fair at 17s., fine 18s., except 250 bags washed which sold at 16s. to 16s. 3d. 1,409 baskets white crystallised Java were bought in at 30s. to 31s. 6d. 2,875 bags China were nearly all sold at easy rates, middling brown at 19s. to 19s. 3d., fine strong at 22s. to 22s. 6d., fine yellow at 24s. to 24s. 6d. Private sales were made of 3,500 bags unclayed Zebu Manila at 16s. 9d.; 8,500 bags brown China at 16s. 6d., and 1,000 bags China at 19s. 6d. On the 23rd, in auction of 2,519 bags crystallised Penang 814 bags sold, middling yellow at 29s., chiefly washed good pale at 28s. 6d., the remainder bought in at 30s. to 30s. 6d., 416 bags brown European sold at 20s. On the 24th privately 1,100 bags crystallised Penang ex the previous day's auction, sold at 29s. 6d. In auction 8,000 bags Siam just arrived per Olivet were all bought in, consisting almost entirely of middling to good soft yellow at 23s. to 24s., a few lots colour 25s., grainy 28s., also 155 bags brown at 18s.

SPICES.—*Cloves*: Of 23 cases Penang offered only 4 cases sold, fine bold at 2s. 1½d. to 2s. 1¾d., very low headless 1s. 2½d., the remainder fair bought in at 2s. 1d. *Ginger*: Of 140 cases Japan offered 17 cases lean flakes sold at 29s., the rest bought in at 32s., plump 37s. *Nutmegs*: Bold sizes again sold readily at very full rates, but small without change. 23 cases Penang nearly all sold, average 77 nuts to the lb. at 3s. 11d. to 4s., 95's at 3s. 2d., 120's at 2s. 4d., 122's at 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d. Of 7 cases 40 boxes Java 7 cases 12 boxes sold, bold at 3s. 6d., 136's at 2s., wormy at 1s. 4d. *Mace*: Of 9 cases Penang offered 6 cases sold at previous rates; middling mixed at 2s. 4d., ordinary partly mouldy at 1s. 10d.

SAGO.—Only 183 bags small pearl were offered, and chiefly sold, good at 17s. 6d., being steady.

SAGO FLOUR.—In auction of 477 bags only about 100 bags sold at 18s. 6d. to 19s., the remainder bought in at 19s.

STICKLAC.—At auction of 152 cases Siam 102 cases fair to good free, just arrived, sold at steady rates, at 49s. to 51s.

SOY.—49 casks China of fresh import sold at 2s. to 2s. 1d.

TAPIOCA.—Of 787 bags Singapore about 500 bags sold at steady rates, small at 2½d., middling to good white at 2½d. to 2½d. *Pearl*: Of 502 bags about 350 bags good medium sold at 21s. to 21s. 6d., chiefly the former price, being 6d. dearer, grey bullets bought in at 30s. *Flour*: 199 boxes (2 tins each) Singapore bought in at 3d.

TIN.—A firmer tone has characterised the market during the week, and values have exhibited an advancing tendency. Current quotations are:—Straits on the spot £68 10s. to £69, afloat £69, Banca £71, Billiton £69 to £69 10s. per ton.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

MANCHESTER GOODS.

The Market opened with rather a steadier tone. A moderate amount of transactions has resulted in both Yarns and Goods at the rates current last week. The advance made in the quotations for Cotton has encouraged spinners and manufacturers to hold for full rates, but does not appear to stimulate buyers to increase their operations.

QUOTATIONS.

		s. d.	s. d.
Grey Shirtings	... 38½-39 in.	7lbs.	5 2½
Do. do.	... 44 45 in.	8½lbs.	6 2½
Do. do.	... "	8lbs.	6 0½
Do. do.	... "	9lbs.	6 10
Do. do.	... 50 in.	10lbs.	7 8½
Grey T-Cloths	... 32 in.	8lbs.	4 3½
Do. do.	... "	7lbs.	4 9 9-16
Do. do. (Mexicans)	... 36 in.	8½lbs.	5 3 9-16
Madapolams	... 32 in.	21b. 8 oz.	2 2 11-16
Grey Jacconets	... 39 in.	21b. 1 oz.	2 6 17-32
Grey Drills	... 30 in.	14½lbs.	8 8½
Grey Jeans	... 30 in.	8½lbs.	6 10½
White Spot Shirtings	... 36 in.	9 7½	
Brocade	... 36 in.	9 10½	
Damasks	... 36 in.	16 8½	
Water Twist (China quality)	16-34	0 9½	to 0 10½
Do. do. do.	24-32	0 10½	to 0 11½
Do. (Mock)	38-42	0 11½	to 1 0

METALS.

IRON.—Welsh: Rails, £5 10s. to £5 15s.; Bars, £5 15s.; Staffordshire Best: Bars, £7 10s. to £8; Nail Rods, £7 to £7 15s.; Hoops, £7 15s. to £8 10s.; Sheets, £8 15s. to £10 10s.; Scotch Pig, No. 1, £2 15s. to £3 7s.; Swedes, Bars, Hammered, £11 to £12; Swedes, Steel in kegs, ½ and 1 in., £15 10s. to £16.

YELLOW METAL.—Sheets, 4 by 4 ft., 6½d. to 7d.; Sheathing and Rods, 6½d. to 7d. per lb.

IRON.—English Refined, £75. Tin Plates: Charcoal IC, per box, 22s. 6d. to 28s.; Coke IC, 17s. 6d. to 22s.

LEAD.—WB, £20 15s.; do., other brands, £20 to £20 5s. Spanish soft, ex ship, £19 15s. Sheet, £21; Shot (kegs extra), £24 10s.; White do., £26 to £26 10s.

SPLITER.—Silesian, £19 5s. to £19 10s.

QUICKSILVER.—In bottles of 75 lbs. each, £7 15s.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Ship.	Captain.	From	At
Sept 29	Springfield.....	Peart.....	Hong Kong.....	Astoria
Oct. 8	Windermere.....	Mann.....	Ilo Ilo.....	Boston
1	Jessie Osborne.....	Falconer.....	Rangoon.....	Bremen
15	Iris.....	Stolpe.....	Akyab.....	Pauliac
16	Giuseppe.....	Cabotto.....	Engn. for Koogerplidr.	Texel
17	Churchistow.....	Adams.....	Bassein.....	Hamburg
17	Dolphin.....	Lilenthal.....	Macassar.....	Texel
17	Onrust.....	Paulis.....	Tjilatjap.....	Helvoet
18	Elgin (s.).....	—	Santarang.....	Ymuiden
18	Axel.....	Svensson.....	Rangoon.....	Copenhagen
18	Guldbriaga.....	Johansen.....	Akyab, for Flensburg	Nyborg
18	Nelson.....	Faithful.....	Bassein.....	Scilly
18	Gottfoll.....	Morrison.....	Rangoon.....	Queenstown
18	Stella B.....	Bianchi.....	Do.....	Do.
18	Mikado (s.).....	Barclay.....	Shanghai.....	London
19	Lorne (s.).....	Mc'Nullock.....	Do.....	Do.
19	Hermann.....	Anglbeck.....	Manila.....	Liverpool
19	Antiope.....	Black.....	Rangoon.....	Do.
19	Bertie.....	Le Costa.....	Singapore.....	Do.
19	Kristinestad.....	Olen.....	Maulmain.....	Falmouth
19	Pey Berland.....	Le Bras.....	Saigon.....	Do.
20	Asia.....	Corbone.....	Akyab.....	Do.
20	Chameral.....	Harris.....	Rangoon.....	Queenstown
20	Oskar.....	Johannessen.....	Akyab.....	Bremen
20	W. B. Harkess.....	Hitchen.....	Rangoon.....	Liverpool
20	Thermopylae.....	Matheson.....	Shanghai.....	London
20	Virgin del Carmen.....	Jane.....	Penang.....	Do.
21	Lenesdin.....	Mearns.....	Hong Kong.....	Do.
21	Ironside.....	Spencer.....	Singapore.....	Falmouth
21	Glen Caladh.....	Lamont.....	Panarukan.....	Do.
21	Quieirolo.....	Garbore.....	Rangoon.....	Do.
21	Cadiz (s.).....	Echeita.....	Manila.....	Liverpool
21	Heariatta.....	Seynstra.....	Batavia.....	Ymuiden
21	Earl of Devon.....	Beer.....	Akyab.....	Antwerp
21	Jane Harvey.....	Sanders.....	Do.....	Do.
21	Kennemerland.....	De Jong.....	Ratavia.....	Helvoet
21	Cornelia.....	Leclerc.....	Banjowangie.....	Browershaven
22	Papa Olivari.....	Enrico.....	Bassein.....	Do.
22	Drethe (s.).....	Kramers.....	Batavia.....	Flushing
22	Joshua.....	Wilking.....	Akyab.....	Texel
22	Brendt.....	Buchanan.....	Foochow.....	London
23	Windhover.....	Findlay.....	Shanghai.....	Do.
23	Romania.....	—	Maulmain, for Amstn.	Passed Dungeness.
23	Daupuelo Padre.....	Fravego.....	Rangoon.....	Queenstown
23	Glamis Castle (s.).....	—	Yokohama.....	New York
23	Eleanor.....	Punkhurst.....	Maulmain.....	Falmouth
23	Runnymede.....	Way.....	Akyab.....	Do.
23	Manitoba.....	Williams.....	Do.....	Do.
24	Luctor et Emergo.....	Haansnoot.....	Basscin, for Flushing	Do.
24	Ottawa.....	Campbell.....	Maulmain, for Sundid.	Deal

PASSED SUEZ CANAL.

Date.	Steamer.	From	For
Oct. 21 ...	Prins Hendrik	Batavia	Nieuwe Diep
... 23 ... Bertha	—	London	Penang, &c.

DEPARTURES.

Date	Ship.	Captain.	For	From
Oct. 8	Canon Harrison	Hawes	Shanghai	San Francisco
18	Wega	Jacobs	Hong Kong	Cardiff
18	Aristide	Briant	Batavia	Pauliac
19	Europe	Vanhuy	Java	Havre
19	Deutschland	Stindt	Singapore	Helvetic
19	Phone	Brand	Do	Hamburg
19	Oscar	Windhorst	Hong Kong	Do
20	Soloo	Dudley	Anjer	Sunderland
21	Civale	Nissen	Bangkok	Cuxhaven
21	Noah L.	V. d. Schafft	Batavia	Brouwershaven
21	Johann Smidt	Feldhausen	Hong Kong	London
24	Star of the East	Pomeroy	Singapore	Do
24	Valkryien	Claproth	Anjer	At Deal

See *Shipping Postscript and Correspondents' Letters.*

SPOKEN.

APTON, Liverpool to Manila, Sept. 2, 8 N., 26 W.
 COLONEL FYTCH, Cardiff to Hong Kong, Sept. 6, 13 N., 26 W.
 ABERNITY, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Aug. 14, 3 N., 21 W.
 TITANIA, London to Shanghai, Sept. 6, 6 N., 22 W.
 JOHN HARVEY, New York to Batavia, Sept. 16, 27 N., 43 W.
 SCOTIA, Liverpool to Anjer, Sept. 11, 10 N., 25 W.
 HATTE N. BANGS, New York to Yokohama, Sept. 3, 25 S., 25 W.

CASUALTIES.

FALMOUTH.—Oct. 20, the Ironside, arrived here from Singapore, reports that when off the Western Isles she experienced a hurricane, during which she laboured heavily.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GIBRALTAR.—Passed, Oct. 22, Gordon Castle (str.), London for Singapore, &c.

MALTA.—Oct. 21, arrived and left, Hampton (str.), Southampton for Batavia; 23, Ajax (str.), China for Liverpool.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—For Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Glengyle, Cyphrenes, Glenfalloch. For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Altona. For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Yokohama, and Hiogo: Galley of Lorne, Malabar. Cairnsmuir, Lorne.

SAILING VESSELS.—For Shanghai: Fantasia, Nourmahal, Fiery Cross. For Hong Kong: Lodore, Devana, Minna, Sir Harry Parkes. For Yokohama, &c.: Laira, Coulnakyle. For Batavia, &c.: Haakon Adelsten (s.), St. Joseph. For Penang: Kinfaua Castle.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai: Menelaus (s.), Achilles (s.), Patroclus (s.). For Batavia, &c.: Cardinal Danner. For Singapore, &c.: Cadiz (s.).

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore: Astarte.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth.

Rates for steamers and sailing ships on the berths are unchanged. Homeward chartering continues dull, although there is a little movement from some Eastern ports.

Per STEAMERS VIA SUEZ CANAL.—To Yokohama: 30s. weight, 30s. meat. To Hiogo: 35s. weight, 35s. meat. To Nagasaki: 50s. weight, 50s. meat. To Shanghai: 27s. 6d. weight, 30s. meat. To Hankow: 40s. weight, 50s. meat. To Hong Kong: 27s. 6d. weight, 30s. meat. To Singapore: 27s. 6d. weight, 30s. meat. To Penang: 27s. 6d. weight, 30s. meat. To Colombo: 30s. weight or meat. To Batavia: 60s. meat. To Samarang: 70s. meat. To Sourabaya: 70s. meat.

Per SAILING VESSELS.—To Yokohama: 30s. weight, 30s. meat. To Hiogo: 30s. weight or meat. To Shanghai: 25s. weight, 20s. meat. To Hong Kong: 25s. weight, 20s. meat. To Singapore: 22s. 6d. weight, 20s. meat. To Penang: 22s. 6d. weight, 20s. meat. To Batavia: 20s. to 25s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meat. To Colombo: 25s. weight, 22s. 6d. meat.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne, per keel.—To Yokohama: £30. To Shanghai: £30. To Hong Kong: £25. To Bangkok: £24. To Singapore: £20. To Penang: £20. To Colombo: £20. To Galle: £18. To Batavia and Sourabaya: £22.

OSLER'S

GLASS CHANDELIER

WALL LIGHTS AND LUSTRES FOR
 CHANDELIER IN BRONZE AND ORMOLU
 KEROSENE, MODERATOR, AND OTHER LAMPS
 FOR INDIA AND HOME USE.

TABLE GLASS OF ALL KINDS.
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 BIRMINGHAM—Manufactory and Show Rooms
 Broad-street. Established 1807.

S. BING,
 DEPOT FOR WORKS OF ART, &c.
 FROM CHINA AND JAPAN,
 9, RUE CHAUCHAT, PARIS

GUERLAIN,

15, RUE DE LA PAIX, PARIS.
 VERITABLE AMBROSIAL CREAM for shaving.
 FASHIONABLE PERFUMES for the handkerchief.
 STILBOIDE for the hair.
 SAPOCETI, toilet soap.
 EAU DE COLOGNE (préparation spéciale).
 Poudre de CYPRIS for the complexion, ni fard
 ni bismuth, ni produit chimique.
 CRÈME DE FRAISES (new Cold Cream).

CHINA AND JAPAN AGENCY.
 For the Purchase and Shipment of Goods of all kinds
 to Ports in China, Japan, the Straits Settlements, &c.
 Orders for Furniture, Stores, Books, and Personal Re-
 quirements of every description promptly executed,
 either by Overland Route or Clipper Sailing Vessels.
 The articles in all cases are carefully selected by persons
 who have had personal experience of the wants of resi-
 dents in China and Japan. Orders should be accompa-
 nied either by a remittance, or a reference for payment
 in London. All communications to be addressed, and
 remittances made payable, to

THE MANAGER,
 CHINA AND JAPAN AGENCY
 79, GRACECHURCH STREET, E.C.

Now ready.

CHINA SHIRTING TABLES.

By W. BRAND.

W. W. SPRAGUE & CO.,
 14, SHERBORNE-LANE, KING WILLIAM-STREET
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Imperial 8vo., with maps, monthly, price 1s. 6d., or
 20s. per annum, postage free.

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 ZINE. Edited by CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM,
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Demy 8vo., with plates and woodcuts, monthly, price
 1s. 6d.; subscription 18s. per annum.

THE GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE;
 or, Monthly Journal of Geology. Edited by HENRY
 WOODWARD, F.R.S., F.G.S., assisted by Professor JOHN
 MORRIS, F.G.S., and ROBERT ETHERIDGE, F.R.S.,
 F.G.S.

London: TRUBNER & CO., 57 and 59, Ludgate-hill.

From Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea, per ton.—To Yokohama: 20s.
 To Shanghai: 30s. To Hong Kong: 25s. 6d. To Manila: 25s. To
 Singapore: 20s. To Penang: 20s. To Colombo: 19s. To Galle: 20s.
 To Batavia and Sourabaya: 21s. To Macassar: 24s. 6d. To
 Padang: 22s. 6d.

From Birkenhead, per ton.—To Hong Kong: 20s. To Shanghai: 25s. To Singapore: 16s. To Batavia and Sourabaya: 18s. To Galle: 17s.

GENERAL SHIPPING NEWS.

THE CARDIFF COAL TRADE.—The export of coal from Cardiff has increased so much lately that repeated requests have been made to the Marquis of Bute, Lord Windsor, the Taff Vale Railway Company, and to capitalists, to construct new docks at that place. At a meeting of the directors of the Penarth and Taff Vale Railway Companies, held at Cardiff, it was resolved to apply jointly to Parliament for powers to construct, on land near Cardiff belonging to Lord Windsor, a dock capable of shipping four millions of tons of coal annually. The cost of the dock is estimated at half a million.

SCARLET FEVER has appeared on board the Queensland emigrant ship Gauntlet, which left London on the 12th inst. with 302 emigrants and crew. The ship, which bore up for Plymouth, was visited by the Board of Trade officials, and the medical officer ordered the two children affected, together with the families to which they belong, to be landed. The remainder of the passengers on board have been placed in a hulk while the Gauntlet is fumigated and disinfected. In the meantime no communication is allowed between the ship and the shore.

INFORMATION has been received that the Glasgow ship Inch Kenneth, Captain Hillman, foundered off Cape St. Francis on the 24th of September. The only eight survivors of the crew were conveyed to Cape-town by the ship Liverpool. Captain Hillman died in the boat.

THE demolition of the wreck of the Forest, off Portland, is being proceeded with rapidly by the Trinity Board officials. About two-thirds have been removed. As the wreck is separated by the explosions the portions are towed ashore and sold by public auction.

It has been decided that the American ship New World, on board which a mutiny took place last week, resulting in a man being shot dead, is out of English jurisdiction; consequently there will be no inquest or other official inquiry.

HYDROGRAPHICAL NOTIFICATION.

China Sea—*Rock to the Eastward of Pootoo Island.*—Notice is given that Captain Petersen, of the C. M. S. N. Company's steamer Hochung, has reported a rock, unmarked on the charts, to the eastward of Pootoo Island, and he gives the following magnetic bearings as determining its position:—West Nine Pin Rock, N. 33° E.; Half-tide Rock, N. 12° E.; N.W. point of Isthmus Island, N. 14° W.; Northern end of Pootoo E. bluff, N. 49° W. The Harbour-Master at Ningpo has verified the position of this pinnacle rock, and reported that there will probably be only six feet of water on it at low water spring tides, with from seven to thirteen fathoms around it.

LAUNCHES.

An iron screw steamer, the largest hitherto built by Messrs. Richardson, Duck and Co., has been launched from their building-yard, South Stockton-on-Tees. The following are her dimensions, viz.:—Length over all, 325 feet 3 inches, ditto b.p. 316 feet 6 inches; breadth extreme 35 feet 3 inches, depth in hold to upper deck 25 feet 9 inches, ditto to maindeck 17 feet 11 inches, tonnage O.M. 1,952 tons, ditto gross N.M. about 2,260 tons. She is classed 100 A1 at Lloyd's as a three-decked ship, and has been built under special survey. She is rigged as a three-masted schooner, and has a full poop, bridge and topgallant forecastle, and has a double bottom capable of containing over 400 tons of water-ballast in different compartments. Her engines, on the compound direct-acting surface condensing principle, are of 220-horse power nominal. She has been built to the order of Messrs. H. Clarkson and Co., London, and is intended to trade through the Suez Canal to Calcutta and the Far East, and has been christened the Castello.

An iron sailing vessel, which has been built to the order of Messrs. Ellis and Co., of Liverpool, by Messrs. Mounsey and Foster, has been launched by them from their shipbuilding yard at the South Dock, Sunderland, the following being her dimensions:—Length between perpendiculars, 197 feet; breadth, 34.4 feet; and depth of hold, 21 feet. Her gross register tonnage is about 1,100, and she will be barque-rigged, her lower masts and yards being of iron. The vessel is named the Henrietta.

TONITE, OR COTTON POWDER.

THE SAFEST, STRONGEST, AND CHEAPEST OF ALL EXPLOSIVES.

Recommended to MINERS, PIT SINKERS, QUARRYMEN, and CONTRACTORS as the MOST EFFICIENT and ECONOMICAL BLASTING AGENT ever invented.

Results of practical experience show a saving of from 15 to 20 per cent. over the strongest explosives previously in use.

It saves labour in drilling holes, as a less number of holes are needed.

It does not require thawing, but is ready for use at all temperatures and in all climates.

It can also be advantageously used in breaking up boulders, extracting stumps, removing wrecks, exploding torpedoes, and for submarine purposes in general, as well as for signal lights and fog signals for ships.

OFFICES:-

23, QUEEN ANNE'S GATE, LONDON, S.W.
WORKS:-FAVERSHAM, KENT.

 OVERLAND ROUTE
via SUEZ CANAL.—The PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY'S STEAMERS sail from Southampton, via the Suez Canal, as follows:-

...	...	H.p. Tons	...
*Malwa	Nov. 1	450,2,933	Mediterranean, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan & Queensland.
Mongolia	Nov. 8	530,2,833	Mediterranean, Aden, Bombay.
*Hindostan	Nov. 15	600,3,186	Mediterranean, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan & Australia.
Indus	Nov. 22	500,3,470	Mediterranean, Aden, Bombay.
*Peshawar	Nov. 29	600,3,781	Mediterranean, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Straits, China, Japan & Queensland.

* Taking passengers for Bombay also by branch steamer from Suez.

 OVERLAND ROUTE
via ITALY.—The PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY despatch their Steamers with the Overland portion of the Mails and Passengers in connection with the departures from Southampton, shown above, as follows:-

From Venice to Alexandria ... Every Friday.
Brindisi ... Monday.
For full particulars apply at the Company's Offices, 122, Leadenhall-street, E.C., and 25, Cockspur-street, S.W.

 COLOMBO.—The PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY now book passengers to Colombo at the same fares as to Galle. Apply at 122, Leadenhall-street, or 25, Cockspur-street.

OVERLAND ROUTE
via MARSEILLES and SUEZ CANAL.—Under contract with the French Government for the conveyance of the Mails to INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN, BATAVIA, REUNION, and MAURITIUS.

The MESSAGERS MARITIMES COMPANY will despatch their steamers from MARSEILLES via the Suez Canal every alternate Sunday at 10 A.M., beginning on Sunday, the 9th Sept.

* Passengers eastward of Suez securing their berths in London are entitled to the free conveyance of their luggage to Marseilles, as explained in the Company's handbook.

For Passage, Rates of Freight, and Particulars see the Company's handbook, and apply to the Company's London Agency, 97, Cannon-street, E.C.; or at the West End Sub-Agency, 51, Pall-mall, S.W.

 TRIESTE ROUTE FOR INDIA, ALEXANDRIA, CONSTANTINOPLE, SMYRNA, PORTS in the LEVANT, &c.—The AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAMERS leave Trieste weekly. For dates of sailing and all particulars apply at the offices, 127, Leadenhall-street, or at No. 14, Waterloo-place, London, S.W., and 4, Oriental-buildings, Southampton.

HICKIE, BORMAN and Co., Agents.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS.
EDWIN BURROWS,
SHIPPER'S, CONTRACTOR'S, and
MANUFACTURERS' AGENT,
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SPECIALITIES:-

Arms.	Electro Plate.
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N.B.— Manufacturers' lowest possible Quotations.
INDENTS EXECUTED.

 ALCMEEN DAGBLAD
VAN
NEDERLANDSCH INDIE,
First-class Dutch Daily Paper, published at Batavia, Java, by Messrs. ERNST and Co. Yearly, £5 3s. 4d. London Agent, FRED. ALGAE, 8 Clement's-lane, Lombard-street.

THE FOLLOWING IS AN

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER

dated 15th May, 1872, from an old inhabitant of Horningsham, near Warminster, Wilts:-

"I must also beg to say that your Pills are an excellent medicine for me, and I certainly do enjoy good health, sound sleep, and a good appetite; this is owing to taking your Pills. am 78 years old."

"Remaining, Gentlemen, yours very respectfully," "L. S.
To the Proprietors of
NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS, London



NOTICE TO MARINERS. NO. 76.

CHINA SEA.

NINGPO DISTRICT.

ROCK TO THE EASTWARD OF POOTOO ISLAND.

Notice is hereby given, that Captain Petersen, of the C.M.S.N. Company's steamer *Ho-chung*, has reported a Rock, unmarked on the Charts, to the Eastward of Pootoo Island, and he gives the following magnetic bearings as determining its position:-

West Nine Pin Rock N. 33° E.
Half Tide Rock N. 12° E.

N.W. Point of Isthmus
Island N. 14° W.

Northern end of Pootoo E.

Bluff N. 49° W.

The Harbour-Master at Ningpo has verified the position of this pinnacle rock, and reported that there will probably be only 6 feet of water on it at low water spring tides, with from 7 to 13 fathoms round it.

See Admiralty Charts Nos. 1,199 and 1,969.

By order of the Inspector-General of Customs,

DAVID M. HENDERSON,
Engineer-in-Chief.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Engineer's Office,
Shanghai, 27th Aug., 1877.

HOME AND EDUCATION.

A LADY (widow of a Vice-Consul in China) would like the charge of some children, whose parents reside in China or India, to bring up and educate with her own.

For particulars, address C., *London and China Express* Office, 79, Gracechurch-street, London, E.C.

LIST OF AGENTS.

THE NINETEENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced the 2nd day of January, 1877. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines, and 6d. for each additional line.

Subscriptions and Advertisements received abroad by the following Agents:-

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Marseilles ... The Courier at Hotel du Louvre
Hamburg ... R. CARL (for Subscriptions).
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Trieste ... SIGNOR CARLINI, Piazza Teatro Grande.

Rome ... PIALE, Piazza di Spagna.
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Foo-Chow ... KELLY and Co.

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Osaka and Hiozo ... J. J. CANN.

Yokohama ... E. J. B. McMAHON.

OFFICE, 79, GRACECHURCH-STREET, E.C.

CHINESE IMPERIAL EIGHT PER CENT. LOAN OF 1874.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the stipulation contained in the Bonds of this Loan, the following Numbers of Bonds to be paid off at par, in Hong Kong on the 31st of December, and in London on the 19th of February next, when the Interest thereon will cease to be payable, were this day Drawn at the Offices of the HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, situate No. 31, Lombard-street, in this City, in the presence of Mr. WILLIAM NICHOLLS, Acting Accountant of the said Corporation, and of the undersigned Notary Public.

NUMBERS OF BONDS DRAWN.

314 Bonds Nos. :—

3	660	1299	1929	2577	3184	3809	4424	5048	5666
29	675	1309	1958	2594	3206	3825	4450	5064	5681
58	683	1332	1976	2618	3222	3841	4461	5093	5717
64	716	1351	1997	2629	3241	3861	4483	5103	5736
95	727	1370	2016	2659	3261	3881	4509	5124	5744
119	742	1395	2024	2679	3288	3919	4536	5160	5767
133	768	1409	2048	2696	3310	3922	4554	5168	5793
146	790	1424	2077	2715	3339	3949	4562	5199	5815
168	805	1443	2098	2721	3359	3972	4596	5207	5831
184	832	1468	2109	2753	3370	3981	4611	5240	5859
220	845	1493	2125	2775	3395	4010	4636	5243	5865
231	870	1505	2150	2797	3401	4035	4653	5266	5898
248	887	1540	2171	2806	3428	4056	4679	5294	5916
272	920	1555	2183	2826	3457	4064	4691	5311	5927
282	925	1570	2204	2850	3476	4084	4718	5333	5944
308	952	1589	2224	2865	3491	4108	4736	5341	5978
328	980	1606	2244	2887	3519	4121	4747	5379	5998
346	990	1633	2264	2910	3531	4159	4761	5389	6002
371	1001	1652	2296	2933	3559	4168	4799	5404	6031
398	1038	1679	2306	2944	3567	4200	4801	5422	6046
401	1042	1692	2340	2971	3597	4214	4821	5450	6069
439	1070	1703	2341	2984	3620	4226	4856	5471	6097
449	1087	1724	2369	3015	3635	4242	4862	5483	6105
470	1104	1751	2381	3026	3658	4275	4883	5517	6137
494	1138	1763	2405	3059	3664	4284	4904	5536	6159
507	1144	1799	2440	3076	3699	4313	4921	5557	6166
523	1174	1808	2450	3089	3711	4334	4941	5572	6196
548	1197	1835	2461	3116	3734	4345	4962	5586	6204
570	1208	1849	2496	3134	3759	4368	4983	5601	6228
590	1224	1861	2516	3153	3775	4386	5002	5631	6259
614	1241	1888	2525	3178	3793	4404	5037	5650	6273
634	1275	1912	2555						

For £100 Sterling each. = £31,400.

For the HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,

Countersigned,

W. W. VENN, Junior,

Notary Public,

2, Pope's Head-alley, Cornhill, E.C.

WM. NICHOLLS,

Acting Accountant.

LONDON, 22nd October, 1877.

THE AGRA BANK (Limited).

Established in 1838.

CAPITAL, £1,000,000.
Head Office:—NICHOLAS-LANE, LOMBARD-STREET,
LONDON.
Branches in Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras,
Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong.

Current accounts are kept at the Head Office on the terms customary with London Bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100. Deposits received for fixed periods on the following terms, viz.:—At 5 per cent. per annum, subject to twelve months' notice of withdrawal. For shorter periods deposits will be received on terms to be agreed upon. Bills issued at the current exchange of the day on any of the Branches of the Bank, free of extra charge; and approved bills purchased or sent for collection. Sales and purchases effected in British and Foreign Securities, in East India Stock and Loans, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Interest drawn, and Army, Navy, and Civil Pay and Pensions realised. Every other description of Banking Business and Money Agency, British and Indian, transacted.

J. THOMSON, Chairman.

HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Capital, \$5,000,000. All paid up.

Reserve Fund, \$650,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONG KONG.

LONDON COMMITTEE.

Albert Deacon, Esq. (of Messrs. F. and A. Deacon),
E. F. Duncanson, Esq. (of Messrs. T. A. Gibb and Co.),
A. H. Philpott, Esq., Carlton, Surrey.

MANAGER—David McLean, 31, Lombard-street, E.C.
BANKERS—London and County Bank.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Hong Kong	Rankow	Saigon
Shanghai	Yokohama	Singapore
Foochow	Hiogo	Bombay
Ningpo	Manila	Calcutta

The Corporation grant Drafts upon, and negotiate or collect Bills at any of the Branches or Agencies; also receive Deposits for fixed periods, at rates varying with the period of deposit.

The Corporation issue Letters of Credit, negotiable in the principal cities of Europe, Asia, and America, for the use of travellers.

They open Current Accounts for the convenience of constituents returning from China, Japan, and India.

They also undertake the Agency of constituents connected with the East, and receive for safe custody Indian and other Government Securities, drawing Interest and Dividends on the same as they fall due.

Dividends are payable in London on receipt of the advice of meeting in Hong Kong, held in February and August.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, August 30, 1851.
PAID-UP CAPITAL £1,500,000.
RESERVED FUNDS, £500,000

The Corporation grant Drafts, and negotiate or collect Bills payable at Bombay, Calcutta, Cape Town, Colombo, Foochow, Hiogo, Hong Kong, Kandy, Madras, Mauritius, Melbourne, Point de Galle, Port Elizabeth, Shanghai, Sinapore, Sydney, and Yokohama, on terms which may be ascertained at their Office. They also issue Circular Notes for the use of Travellers by the Overland Route.

They undertake the agency of parties connected with India and the Colonies, the purchase and sale of British and Foreign Securities, the custody of the same, the receipt of Interest, Dividends, Pay, Pensions, &c., and the effecting of remittances between the above-named Dependencies.

They also receive deposits of £100 and upwards for fixed periods, the terms for which may be ascertained on application at their Office.

Office hours, Ten to Three; Saturdays, Ten to Two.
Threadneedle-street London, 1877.

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Incorporated by National Decrees of 7th and 8th of March, 1848, and by Imperial Decrees of 20th July, 18th and 31st December, 1866.

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The Committee is happy to have as the present Head Master the Rev. Edward Waite, M.A., a gentleman of high literary qualifications, while Mrs. Waite is a true mother to the boys. There is an efficient staff of masters assisting Mr. Waite, and every confidence is felt that such an education is being given as will afford entire satisfaction both to the parents and the subscribers. The Institution is wholly unsectarian in its character. The total number of boys received since 1852 is 307. Of these 176 were the sons of missionaries of the London Missionary Society; Baptist, 75; Presbyterian, 23 Wesleyan, Episcopalian, and others, 23.

The School is not intended for merely secular instruction; the spiritual interests of the boys are carefully attended to; they are diligently instructed in the truths of Holy Scripture, their conduct constantly watched over, and the whole of their school life pervaded by Christian influence. The Committee are aware that the character of education in general has been much improved in recent years, and being anxious not to fall behind any similar institution, have tested the progress of the boys periodically by Cambridge University Examiners and otherwise, with very satisfactory results. They desire to stimulate the diligence of the boys by offering for competition at least one scholarship—or by what shall be equivalent to a scholarship. Some of the lads show excellent capacities, which would justify the highest opportunities of culture.

The terms on which pupils were originally received were £18 per annum. The charge is now £18, which, considering the increased cost of provisions, &c., barely equal to the £15 of former times.

The Committee respectfully and urgently solicit the annual assistance of all friends who are able to help the Institution by their contributions. They cordially thank the liberal contributors to the Special Fund above referred to, and beg again to remind them and other friends of the School that it is entirely dependent upon the payments of the parents, and upon voluntary subscriptions, there being no endowment of any kind, or any other source of income, with the exception of an Annual Donation from the executors of a deceased friend to which, however, there is no legal claim.

Subscriptions received by Dr. Mallens, London Missionary Society; Rev. Joseph Beasley, 13, Paragon, Blackheath; A. H. Bateman, Esq., Devonshire House, Blackheath, S.E.; or by the Agents of this Paper at the ports of the Far East.

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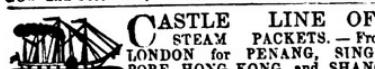
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Glenroy	100 A1	2,121	250	To follow
State of Louisiana	100 A1	1,869	240	To follow
Glenegles	100 A1	2,800	530	To follow
Glenartney	100 A1	2,100	330	To follow
Glenearn	100 A1	2,120	330	To follow
Glenfinlas	100 A1	2,120	330	To follow
Glenlyon	100 A1	2,119	275	To follow
State of Alabama*	100 A1	2,913	330	To follow
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* Also Yokohama and Hiogo.
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Peng. Sing. Hg. Kong. Yokohama and Hiogo	Malabar, s.s.	100 A1	S.W.I.D.	Oct. 30
Do. do. do.	Cairnsuir, s.s.	100 A1	S.W.I.D.	Nov. 17

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Destination.	Vessel.	Class.	Tons.	Date.	From
Shanghai	Rutlandshire	A A 1	1057	Sailed.	London
Shanghai	Nourmaha	A 1	846	With des.	London
Shanghai	Hecla	3/3 1.1	967	Sailed.	Antwerp
Honolulu and Port	Vale of Nith	*A A 1	697	Nov. 30	Antwerp
land, Or.	Hertfordshire	A A 1	855	Sailed.	Liverpool
Do.	Clipper ship	A A 1	—	To follow	Liverpool

For Freight and Passage, apply, in Antwerp to JOHN P. BOST and Co.; in Liverpool to JOHN HAT and Co., 28, Brunswick-street; in London to JOHN HAT and Co., 11, Leadenhall-street, E.C.



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Destination.	Name.	Class.	Tons.	Docks.	To Sail.
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Do.	Atholl	100 A1	1436	V.L.D.	Nov. 23
Do.	Moray	100 A1	920	V.L.D.	To foll.

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EXTRA STEAMER.—To be despatched from SOUTHAMPTON to BATAVIA, SAMARANG, and SURABAYA (with liberty to call at Naples and Padang), taking cargo also for all transhipment ports.

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Hong Kong	Devana	Al 13 yr.	S.W.I.	To follow
Shanghai	Fiery Cross	Al 14 yr.	—	With des.
Yok. & Hiogo	Coulnakyle	Al 13 yr.	S.W.I.	With des.

Apply at 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill, London, E.C.

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1,035	Gellatly & Co.	Nov. 3
2,126	Macgregor, Gow, & Co.	Nov. 11

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